

# Sack the Laggards— and the Blackguards

## THE SATURDAY REVIEW

Edited by Lady Houston, D.B.E.

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### **OBSOLETE !**

*From a young friend, an officer in a famous regiment, Lady Houston has received a letter, in which he says :*

“I have been on a course of instruction to learn an automatic gun.  
IT IS OUT OF DATE BY TEN YEARS.”

### ***The Army—OBSOLETE***

In the Royal Air Force young pilots complain that their equipment includes the old “Virginia” night bomber, which was A MODEL ALREADY ANTIQUE IN 1927.

### ***The Air Force—OBSOLETE***

Of our battleships four of the Royal Sovereign type were laid down in 1913 and 1914 and completed in 1916—TWENTY YEARS OUT OF DATE. The Queen Elizabeth type, two laid down in 1912 and completed in 1915, three laid down in 1913 and completed in 1915 and 1916, TWENTY YEARS OUT OF DATE.

### ***Our Navy—OBSOLETE***

Our front bench Politicians are thinking in terms of a generation ago: they cannot cope with modern conditions.

### ***OUR STATESMEN—OBSOLETE***



COLLIN BROOKS in the *Sunday Dispatch* :

## ACHIEVEMENT

THE muddle and confusion into which a vacillating and contradictory policy has thrown Britain's foreign relations may well baffle the judgment of the casual student of affairs.

Even so, whatever one may think of dictatorship as an institution, or the methods by which a dictatorship must be founded and maintained, it is impossible not to be stirred by the magnitude of the achievement of the German Leader.

Three years ago our own disarming pacifists were holding up Adolph Hitler to easy ridicule as a kind of German Charlie Chaplin.

To-day for good or ill, the one-time house-painter dominates Europe. It is *his* peace offer which the nations anxiously discuss; it is the war that *he* may wage from the air that the talking Parliamentarians fear.

Four years ago Germany was still in the slough of despond, her Republican representatives coming cap in hand to the victorious Powers and receiving nothing but loans.

To-day Germany, heavily armed, resolute in policy, ruthless in method, makes demands and dictates conditions.

## MANIKINS

The days of romantic Victorian politics are over.

A Parliament of posturing manikins in the traditional attitudes of the old "Vanity Fair" caricatures is not a constitutional machine fit for dealing with the swift and secret juntas of armed and predatory nations.

Never was there so obvious and terrible a lack of a man to lead the nation.

Before the need for swift and adequate rearmament in the air, all sectional vested interests, all the obsolescent niceties of Departmental decorum, all the old Parliamentary punctilio, should be swept unrelentingly away.

Let the man of single vision and imperturbable determination emerge, and the nation will welcome him.

# The SATURDAY REVIEW

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## THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

The English Government are the only Government in the world that have for years past systematically worked AGAINST THE PRESTIGE OF THEIR OWN COUNTRY.

♦♦

### Stimulating Recruiting

We reprint below the prize-winning letter from the *Daily Mail* £1,000 recruiting competition:—

All branches of the Services should be granted more commissions from the ranks and better pay when circumstances permit.

All regiments should wear full uniform for ceremonials and walking out. This would attract the young idea.

All regiments and Air Force should be long service, like the Navy and Marines.

More should be seen of the Territorials than at present, more route marches through home towns, more drills in the open for the youth of the country to see instead of being tucked away in some small drill hall as at present.

Fortnight's training to be apart from holiday period and in case of financial loss to the employer he should be compensated.

A lump sum should be given after, say, 21 years' continuous Territorial service.—*E. G. Sullivan, Engineer-Commander, Royal Navy (rtd.), Crawleigh, Brecon Avenue, Cosham.*

### Let's Have Sense

The perfect surgeon was defined long ago as one who possessed a lion's heart, an eagle's eye, and a lady's hand. For the critical negotiations bound to begin with Germany and to go far, a perfect British statesman would require a heart of gold, a head of ice, and nerves of steel. We have

no such paragon, but by remembering the three ideals, Mr. Baldwin's Cabinet, such as it is, may come nearer to them. We do not at present command the solid judgment of a Castlereagh, the shrewd humour of a Palmerston, or the perceptive imagination of a Beaconsfield. But at least—despite all the hasty challenging, lecturing, and embroilment of the last ten months—good temper and good will with fibrous good sense, ought to be restored as the traditional assets of British policy.

### Plebiscite and Reply

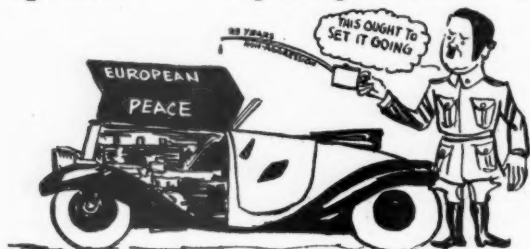
Herr Hitler swept the Reich last Sunday and secured almost 99 per cent. of the votes. This is the official computation. The genuine result closely approximates. Niggling attempts to discount this are worthless. However regarded, it is an unparalleled plebiscite; and represents a final repudiation of inequality under the Treaty of Versailles by an overwhelming majority of the German people. The reply to the Locarno Powers was then drawn up. Herr von Ribbentrop flew back to London on Tuesday night and presented the document on Wednesday morning to Mr. Eden, who was able to tell a crowded House of Commons on Friday that the British Government regards the proposals as "most important and deserving of careful study!"

### Machinery and Lubrication

Here, happily, dispute on preliminaries ceases, and serious scrutiny of the German plan begins. Let us see what it is. It cannot be thoroughly understood by anyone at a first reading—perhaps not even at a second. The Führer's *Grand Dessin* for Europe and the colonial sphere suggests pacification by three stages. He conceives the first



stage as extending over four months from the end of the French elections—say from about next mid-May to mid-September. During that period, while negotiations for a long-lasting settlement were



carried on, a kind of supervised armistice would prevail in the adjacent frontier-zones of Germany on the one side and of France with Belgium on the other.

### Germany's Advantage

Under this truce neither party would seek to gain military advantage by increasing its present forces in the respective zones. But the Reich, in fact, would gain an advantage by fortifying its zone in the good name of national and natural right. France could not consent to tie her hands in view of the change. No philosophic argument can remove this practical hitch. Herr Hitler should face it, and do something about it of his own free will. A little more lubrication is required to start the first motions of the great machinery he designs. *A Pact with France for Twenty-five Years. ...*

This brings us to the more far-reaching proposals. They are put forward as the blue-print of a new order. In that character they are partly elaborate, partly blurred.

### The Keystone

In an armed world words alone cannot solve any concrete question of security. None the less, we respect and value Herr Hitler's words when he proclaims that "Germany has no intention of ever attacking France and Belgium." He repeats his offer of a twenty-five years' reciprocal compact in that sense. This is the very corner-stone or keystone of the whole fabric of his plan. The exact language must be quoted and noted:—

"Germany, Belgium, and France and the two guarantor Powers" [Britain and Italy] "agree to enter into discussions, under the leadership of the British Government, at once, or at the latest after the French elections, for the conclusion of a twenty-five years' pact of non-aggression or security between France and Belgium on the one hand and Germany on the other."

It is next remarked that Holland also might be brought under this umbrella. We welcome the thought and would like as well to see Denmark included.

### Tyrannical Nonsense

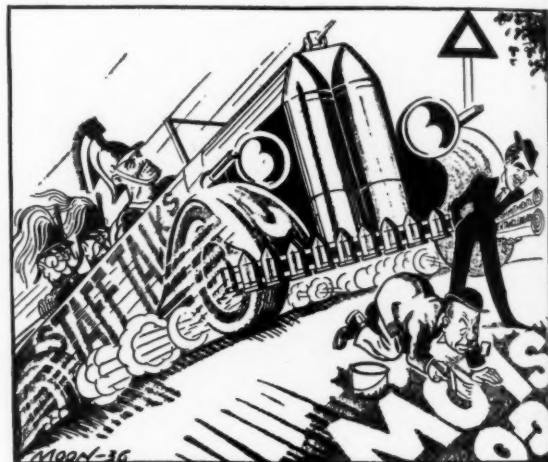
Some supplementary notions are a little less fortunate and should be left over at the present stage. France is asked to join with Germany in suppress-

ing mutually hostile propaganda in the education of the young and in the Press; and to join in ratifying by plebiscite the sacredness of the great truce if concluded. The spirit of this idea is wholly good; the method fatal to the purpose. The conditions would not be equal. In the Nazi Reich just as in Russia despotism is equipped with a secret police, and all the instruments of propaganda and publicity are under absolute control. Press censorships and plebiscites on the German model will never be adopted by any great independent democracy in the world at the prompting of any dictatorship. The fundamental difference of domestic systems must be accepted. Let us not meddle with each other's systems. Britain keeps her own.

### Stick to Realities

Better to concentrate with might and main upon the project of the twenty-five years' truce itself. Should that be realised and buttressed by a plain improvement in the concrete guarantees of real security, mutually hostile propaganda would disappear of itself or diminish to insignificance.

J. L. GARVIN in *The Observer*.



"This Ought to Prevent an Accident, Anthony."

(Reprinted by courtesy of the Sunday Dispatch)

### The Fate of the League

In his exposition of the international situation in the House of Commons a week ago, Mr. Eden, as Foreign Secretary, had little that was new to disclose. He made a strong point of abiding by the Locarno Treaty, declaring that the Government was not going to go back on its signature:—

"I am not prepared to be the first British Foreign Secretary to go back upon a British signature."

That is an admirable sentiment, but it leaves out the changed position that has been brought about by one of the other signatories having broken the Treaty, with the result that what remains is something very different from the 1925 design.

So far, all that has been done since the German forces crossed the Rhine, in the way of straighten-



ing out the situation, has been the prevention of developments which could only have war as the outcome. The position is obviously made difficult from the fact that the Germans, who, after all, are responsible for the present tension, have so far not recognised that it is for them to make more of a contribution to a settlement than they have been disposed to do up to the present.

### Big Bugs have Little Bugs

At the end of his speech Mr. Eden made the usual Ministerial remark about his complete faith in the League of Nations. Dr. Dalton, who followed, pledged the support of the Socialist Party to "a sturdy organisation of collective security through the League of Nations," while Sir A. Sinclair, for the Liberals, declared that we must stick to the League and avoid military alliances, failing to see that that is all that is left of Locarno. Mr. Lloyd George was anti-French, as usual, and Sir Austen Chamberlain anti-German, so these two views cancelled out, though Sir Austen did give the first hint in this debate of criticism of the League.

From Mr. N. Chamberlain came the statement that no measures would be decided upon, in connection with our obligations under Locarno, unless the National Government itself, and not any military staff, agreed to them, and in regard to the question which had been asked, whether we were obliged to undertake, in common with France, the expulsion of German troops from the Rhineland, he declared:—

"Most certainly not. This [the Locarno Treaty] is a guarantee of security against unprovoked aggression, and cannot be twisted into meaning that we are bound in any circumstance to invade another country. We have not committed Parliament, or the country, or the Government, to any risks of war which were not already inherent in the Treaty of Locarno."

There was one real glimmer of light at the end of this debate, when Mr. Chamberlain said:—

"When the time comes for the international conference referred to in the White Paper, we shall have to review the whole position and function of the League of Nations."

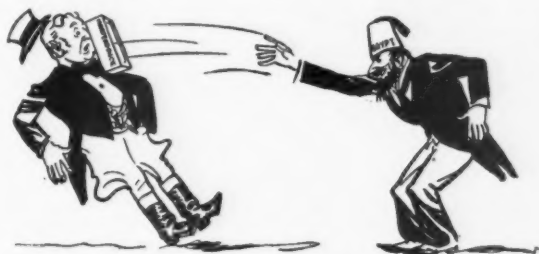
### A Cowardly Policy

If this is what the Government is coming to recognise—that the League is a failure, and can never be anything else—a big advance in the way of sanity will have been made. Though it has been proved that the League cannot insure the blessings of peace, and indeed in the application of sanctions against Italy has brought us perilously near to another world war, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS HITHERTO INSISTENTLY DECLARED THAT BRITISH FOREIGN POLICY IS TO BE DECIDED ON AT GENEVA RATHER THAN AT WESTMINSTER. IT HAS BEEN A COWARDLY

POLICY, AND DICTATED BY THE PACIFISTS OF THE COUNTRY TO WHOM MINISTERS PAY SUCH UNDUE HEED, BASED ON THE IDEA THAT BY DEPENDENCE ON OTHERS WE NEED TAKE NO THOUGHT OF OUR OWN RESPONSIBILITIES. AND NOT ONLY IS IT A COWARDLY POLICY, BUT IN ITS WORKING IT HAS BEEN A DISHONEST ONE, FOR WE HAVE UNDERTAKEN OBLIGATIONS WHICH, AS THE RESULT OF ENTHRONING PACIFIST IDEALS, WE CANNOT CARRY OUT. MR. EDEN MAY STILL ADHERE TO HIS VIEWS AS TO THE SANCTITY OF THE LEAGUE, BUT THERE ARE HOPES THAT SOUNDER AND MORE VIRILE BELIEFS ARE NOW BEING HELD BY PART, AT LEAST, OF THE CABINET.

### The Egyptian Muddle

In a booklet entitled "The Policy of Sanctions and the Failure of the League of Nations," Prof. Chas. Sarolea, who can speak with wide authority on European problems, shows how the seeds of failure were inherent in the birth of the League, how neither the League nor the Covenant have done what they promised to do, and, in fact, how the League, so far from promoting harmony, has promoted discord, and that, so far from having proved itself to be a working instrument, has



invariably refused to work, and that it has brought about neither disarmament nor security. Chapter and verse are given to bear out all these statements: the facts are there and inescapable, and it is only because there has been such an appalling output of words by speech and in print that the public has become bemused and is unable to see the truth that is before their eyes.

There is one specially enlightening chapter in this booklet on Egypt. In this Prof. Sarolea suggests as a possibility that the present discussions between Egypt and Great Britain may lead to Egypt appealing to the League with her claim for full rights as an independent State. In the event of this claim being granted we should either have to go to the extreme length of concessions and submit to the demand of the Egyptian Government, thus making our military occupation of Egypt untenable, or we should have to refuse to accept the award of the League. We should then be in exactly the same position as Italy as regards

Abyssinia, and liable to sanctions under Article 16 of the Covenant.

Prof. Sarolea also deals faithfully with the conflict between the Covenant and the Monroe Doctrine, showing the U.S.A. would never permit the League operating in the Western hemisphere, while the bulk of the Central and South American States have seats on the Council and can all inter-

with its innumerable refinements and adaptations of mechanical device to its own uses and to economic purpose. There are not many things more truly wonderful among the works of man. The flying palace of the fairy tales is become reality. The world cannot but be impressed with the way in which Dr. Eckener has gone on from strength unto strength. If experience shows the



### The Wrong Way to Propose

(Reprinted from the Evening Standard)

fere in European affairs. The position is ridiculous and dangerous in the extreme.

\*\*

*The Patriot.*

### A Wonderful Feat

The successful maiden voyage of the "Hindenburg" from Germany to Brazil deserves all the attention that can be given it. The journey has been regularly made by her predecessor, the Graf Zeppelin, but this is an airship of double the size, equipped with more luxurious accommodation for passengers and designed to carry freight at a profit. The safe transit of nearly a third of the earth's surface at seventy miles an hour does not lack interest as an exploit. But the significance of the "Hindenburg" lies in its aim of turning exploit into commonplace. Dr. Eckener, who must be ranked with the greatest practical geniuses of our day, has tenaciously toiled for the vindication of his scientific convictions. He is rewarded by seeing a type of navigation that has been abandoned by other countries attain a growing efficiency at his hands. His new craft is by far the most elaborate organism that has ever traversed the atmosphere,

application of the lighter-than-air principle to commerce to be as sound in other respects as it seems to be kinetically, Germany will have acquired a notable start from all other countries in an important implement of world trade.

\*\*

*The Observer.*

### No Change in Abyssinia

There has been no pause in Abyssinia. On Tuesday the Italians obtained a smashing victory against Ethiopia's best troops, with the Negus in command. Marshal Badoglio seems to be a real fighting general.

A month or so ago there was great "indignation" in this country—largely spurious—concerning the Hoare-Laval peace proposals, which recognised that Mussolini had already conquered much territory. And now where are we? The indignationists have all along maintained that their prime purpose was to save Abyssinian lives. But look how many they have since sacrificed! Seven thousand in Tuesday's battle alone.

*Sunday Pictorial.*

**L'entente Not So Cordiale**

Monsieur Etienne Bellenger said in an article the other day

That the French people feel "the war comradeship with the British gradually dwindling away."  
And evinced great surprise,  
Though he could hardly be expected to see the situation through our eyes.

For instance, how could M. Bellenger be aware  
That I was done in the eye at St. Omer,  
And how at Hazebrouck  
They took  
My last franc

For a small glass of vin blanc  
When it was only worth half a franc  
Or less

I guess.

And how could M. Etienne  
Know that then

My pay  
Was only a shilling a day  
And that I considered their behaviour

Rather extraordinary, as I thought we were friends  
and I their country's saviour.

No doubt M. Bellenger would throw up his hands  
in dismay

If he knew how I was done in the eye at Calais  
As I stepped ashore

After I had won the war.

And how as years went by

I was regularly done in the eye

In Paris, Lyons, Cannes, in Nice and Nancy  
(Where they charge you anything they fancy).

And how once in Boulogne

They hardly left me with a coin.

And that's why I now spend my vacation

With this nation

In splendid isolation,

And take no more treeps—

I can't afford the teeps.

Little things like this

Don't make for international bliss,

And if France says, "We are your friends, your  
comrades in arms vive l'entente cordiale,"

I think of my last franc

And the glass of vin blanc,

And say to myself, "What a pal, what a pal."

NATHANIEL GUBBINS in the *Sunday Express*.

# The Drone

By Hamadryad

Bumbler Baldwin wasn't around,

Bumbler Baldwin couldn't be found;

They wanted him badly to take a hand in

Extending a welcome to M. Flandin,

And M. van Zeeland,

From Belgium's gay land:

They told him "You ought to be round when  
they land.

It's a P.M.'s job to be there on the mat,

In a clawhammer suit and a stovepipe hat,

And make the right sort of welcoming noise

To the big League Council—the strong-arm  
boys."

But Baldwin (Stan.)

Had a different plan;

He left it to Eden, our bright young man.

He hadn't a pain and he hadn't a cough;

He just couldn't listen to Litvinoff.

He'd got no excuse

For not welcoming Bruce,

And telling the Council, "It's now up to youse."

The Cabinet groused and the F.O. grumbled

While down in the country the Bumbler bumbled.

Didn't he know

It was touch and go,

Whether we should be plunged in a war or no?

Didn't he guess

We'd be in for a mess,

If the French frothed over or Eden fumbled?

Said Bumbler Baldwin, "This isn't my show.

Eden's the boy for this big League stuff,

One part bellow and three parts bluff.

He may talk sweet reason to France and bandy

Words and White Papers with Hoesch and

Grandi,

And inform the excellent Ribbentrop

That his Master's voice is an outsized flop;

He may rise in the House and denounce peace  
wreckers,

But I won't have him bringing them down to  
Chequers."

There's nothing the matter with Bumbler B.;

He sits in the House for all to see,

His chin on his chest and his feet on the table:

He likes that particular kind of babel.

But when it comes

To the rattle of drums,

And buying new warships with extra large sums,

And flocks of bombers

To tackle all comers,

The Bumbler's as slow as a bagful of plumbers.

And whether we're out for collective gore,

Or merely defending Old England's shore,

Whether for pride or revenge or plunder

Some foe is determined to get us under,

You can write us off as a total loss,

If Bumbler Baldwin is still the boss.



# BLACK PACTS AND THE

**T**HE Government has suffered nasty blows lately. Its foreign policy is being watched with a severely critical eye by the nation, and any further false step will be visited severely upon the head of Mr. Baldwin himself, who cannot continue indefinitely to be Prime Minister and at the same time shirk his responsibility. It was defeated in the House of Commons, to a large extent due to the apathy that follows on bad leadership, and it suffered two defeats in the House of Lords, all of which point irrevocably to the waning prestige of the Government, though only a few months old.

It remains to be seen what effort the Government will make this Thursday when the Adjournment of the House will be moved on a motion signed by 75 Conservative M.P.'s, including many able men. The motion is the first serious attack on the greatest

the Government encourages food production at home first, and in the Dominions second, it will be taking an immense step towards national defence. If war should come again, and unawares, are we not inviting a repetition of the food shortage which brought the country to the verge of disaster in 1917? With the enormous advance in air warfare it will be more and more difficult to ensure the necessary supplies of food, especially also as oil has to be the first consideration. It is a crime that the Government does not take steps to endeavour to that every acre of arable and grazing land is developed to the utmost of capacity. It is not an impossibility and would go a long way to render us independent of necessities.

**INSTEAD OF THIS, MR. BALDWIN'S GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN SUBSIDIES TO FOREIGN NATIONS.** It has con-



This picture, dated January, 1918, shows "An orderly queue of customers waiting for their Sunday joint at the meat market." The food shortage was one of the gravest factors of the War.

of the Black Pacts with which we were saddled by Mr. Runciman in 1933. It asks that the Anglo-Argentine trade agreement should be revised on the grounds that it is inimical to home and Empire agricultural interests. **This one-sided Pact was engineered by Mr. Runciman, one of the most notorious Free Traders in this country, and consented to by Mr. Baldwin who has never put out his little finger to assist Empire trade, and can be terminated in November this year if notice be given in May.**

It is to be hoped that Conservative M.P.'s will stand to their guns. It is necessary that this Pact above all others should be rescinded on three grounds. It has struck most unfairly against our own producers who can only exist in the face of this unrestricted competition by means of a subsidy. It is unjust to our Dominions, Australia, Canada and New Zealand particularly, and places us at a grave disadvantage negotiating with them in trade agreements. Last, but not least, if

ceded them the substance for the shadow. In the case of the Argentine, we have imposed no tariffs on meat, and at the end of 1935, according to the *Evening Standard*, our trade showed an adverse balance of 61 million pounds sterling since this deplorable bargain was made. In 1935 the adverse balance was nearly £29 millions sterling. In return for the extraordinary privilege granted her, Argentina undertook certain benefits, but her purchases of coal were lower in 1935 than in 1931, and at the present time out of £277 millions of British capital invested in Argentine railways alone, £174 millions is stagnant and earning no interest.

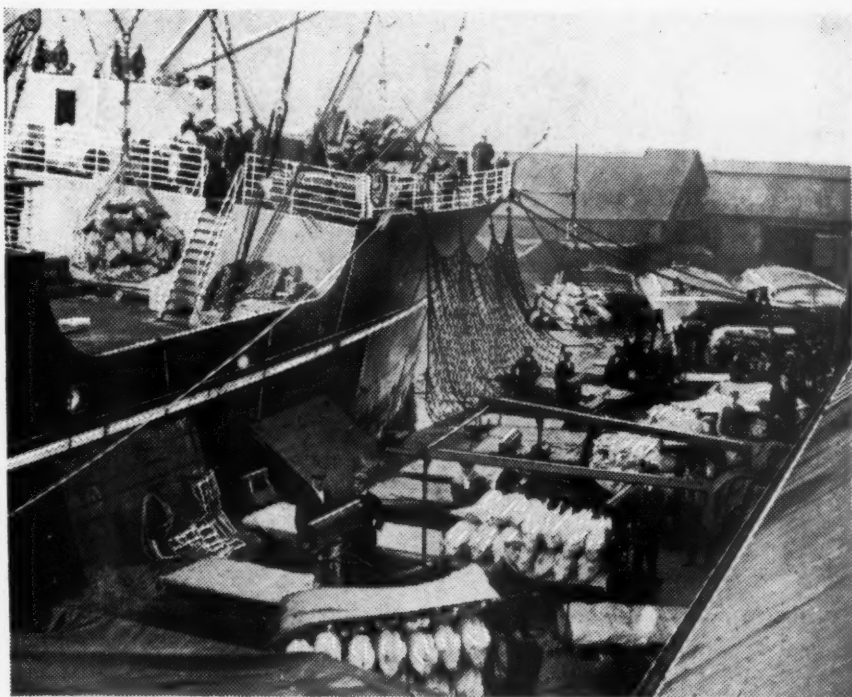
If we probed into the bottom of this one-sided agreement, entered into gaily by Mr. Free-Trader Runciman, we might find some fantastic idea that if we gave the Argentine's a one-sided privilege, they would liquify some of the millions of frozen capital of British subjects. Perhaps certain vested interests had a pull also. If the British Govern-

# THE EMPIRE

By KIM

## A LESSON STILL UNLEARNT

This picture shows  
foreign meat being  
unloaded in British  
Docks.



ment in 1933 (and let us hope in 1936) had said flatly to the Argentine Government that unless they took steps to meet their liabilities to our nationals, we would put such a prohibitive duty on Argentine beef that it could not compete in the market, that Government would have had to come hat in hand. If it did not, probably the English beef producers in the Argentine might have suffered, but if Englishmen invest huge capital in unreliable Spanish-American Republics they should take the consequences. Better they should suffer than the Dominions, and far more so than the agricultural workers at home. **Any business man who made such a deal as Mr. Runciman's would be dismissed as utterly inefficient.**

The Argentine, however, is only one instance of many, notorious though it be, illustrating the way how not to run the Empire. Economics, national defence, and national wealth run side by side. If our Government nursed home produce first, Empire produce next and left the crumbs for the foreigner, we should all be wealthier and stronger. There is no doubt to-day that the overseas Empire as a whole is dissatisfied and dubious as to whether it is getting quite a square deal in trade. We can open an enormous market to our various Dominions and Colonies and get the bulk of their trade in return, and yet we let an outsider like the Argentine come and snatch the market which should properly go to Canada, New Zealand and Australia, who give us tariff privileges we ignobly fail to repay.

How many people realise that that iniquitous instrument, the Statute of Westminster, which enables the Dominions to break away if they wish and proclaim their independence, was really accepted because the British Government—Mr. Baldwin holding the reins of power in 1930—

showed no disposition to grant Imperial Preference, Mr. Baldwin prating instead about "Quotas"?

There was, in 1930, in the Imperial Conference, a grand chance to cement the Empire into a vast cohesive Bund, self-contained, leading to a huge overseas trade, with the Home market properly protected. This priceless jewel was thrown away because evidently some persons had a pull which far outweighed Imperial interests, and so we had these dishonest "quotas," Black Pacts, and Mr. Runciman in charge of the shop.

The Statute of Westminster has led to the point to-day that the Free State may proclaim an independent Republic if it wishes, and as it is likely to wish, without our having any power under that Statute to prevent it. South Africa, as she threatens, may become neutral if we are engaged in a war to the death and forbid us her harbours. There is nothing to prevent any self-governing State of the Empire from cutting the painter, and even becoming an active ally of an enemy. South Africa has already subsidised a foreign steamship line to carry her mails and Australia has barred our Imperial Airways service contract. India has done her best to close her markets to us.

Of course we could retaliate, and in the end it may be the only course, but no one likes to hint at this sort of thing. The Statute of Westminster was perhaps the most destructive measure any British Government has ever carried through, comparable only with the India Act last year. It was forced through in a half-day's debate on a Friday and carried by false undertakings and promises. Its guiding spirit was Mr. J. H. Thomas, but behind it stood that Empire-hater, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and those who would wreck the Empire with him.

# Why Was Russia Admitted to

**M**R. EDEN loves to proclaim his fervent adherence to the Covenant of the League of Nations, and his friend and confederate Monsieur Litvinoff equally loves to thunder forth his devotion to the sacred cause of peace. Does the British Public ever stop to think what a perversion of truth these high sounding phrases really are? The mere fact that Soviet Russia is a member of the League of Nations is in itself a travesty, a criminal sacrilege against anything that the League—if it could mean anything at all—should stand for, and directly repudiates the obligations laid down in Article Twenty-three of the Covenant of the League.

The first part of this Article runs as follows:

"Subject to, and in accordance with the provisions of International Conventions existing, or hereafter to be agreed upon, the Members of the League

(a) will endeavour to secure and maintain fair and humane conditions of labour for men, women and children, both in their own countries and in all countries to which their commercial industrial relations extend, and for that purpose will establish and maintain the necessary international organisations

(b) undertake to secure just treatment of the native inhabitants of territories under their control."

There is ample proof that the Soviet Government have never made any attempt to fulfil these solemn obligations towards their peoples, despite the fact that their representative, Monsieur Litvinoff, has lauded and extolled their inviolable sanctity both at Geneva, and at the Conference tables, which he has so fre-

By . . .  
**MERIEL BUCHANAN**

quently disgraced and polluted with his presence.

A good many books have been written by eye witnesses whose trustworthiness and integrity are above suspicion, describing the pitiable conditions of the peasantry in Soviet Russia. Here and there a few articles recounting the same stories have appeared in the Press. Papers like the *Saturday Review*, the *Patriot*, and the *Christian Protest Movement News* have continually tried to impress on the public the suffering of the Christians, who still cling to their Religion, in a land which mocks at God, and profanes His most sacred teaching. AND YET IN SPITE OF THE INCONTROVERTIBLE PROOFS OF THE WAY IN WHICH SOVIET RUSSIA RIDICULES THE COVENANTS OF THE LEAGUE, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THEIR MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEAGUE, AND CONTINUES TO RECEIVE MONSIEUR LITVINOFF AS AN HONoured GUEST.

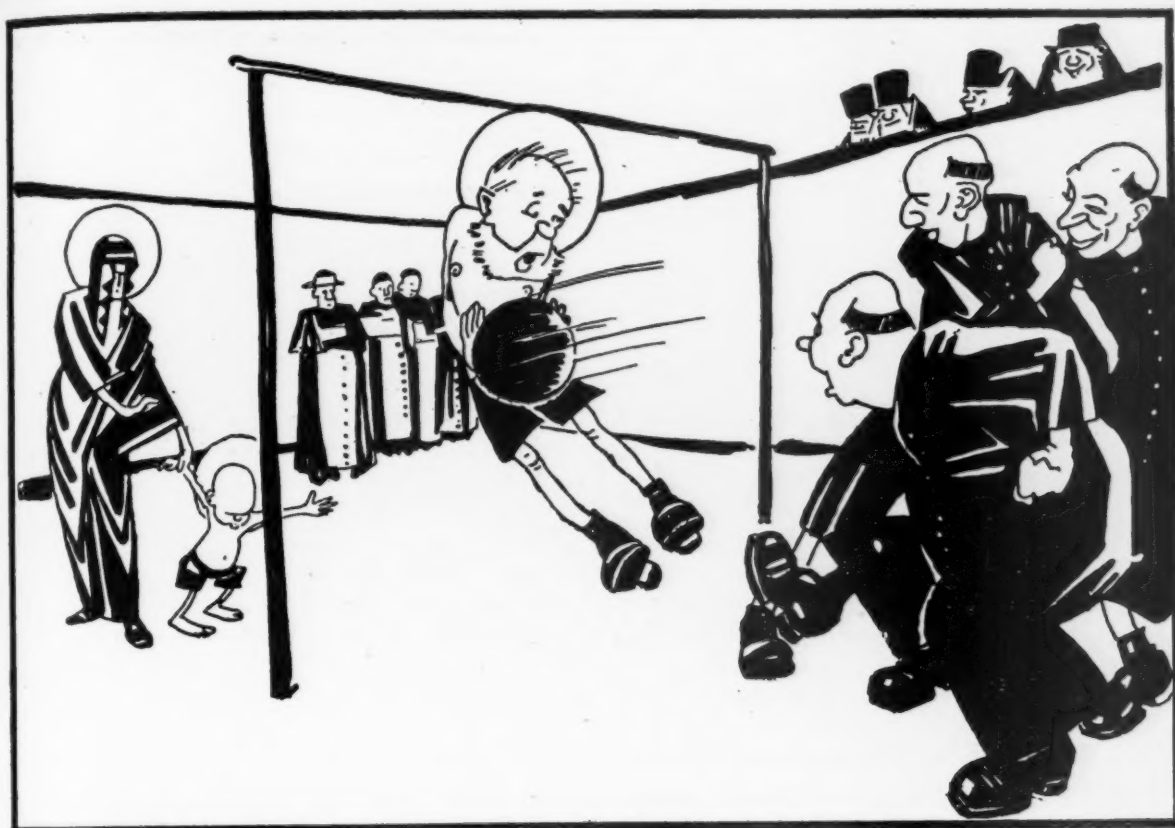
During the negotiations between Russia and America a few years ago, Monsieur Litvinoff



A wretched Russian peasant gazing at the body of his child who has died from starvation.



# ed to the League? . . . .



A typical blasphemous Soviet cartoon.

assured President Roosevelt, when the latter wished to ascertain the immunity of American subjects in the U.S.S.R., that the Soviet Government guaranteed freedom of conscience to all. How does this ambiguous statement conform with the atheistic teaching in the Russian schools, or with the following paragraph, which is included in one of the official publications of the Russian Ministry of Instruction: "**We must annihilate and destroy all the occasions which might develop Religion in children.**" Can there be true liberty of conscience in a country which forbids religious teaching, and accuses those who disobey this order of being counter revolutionary?

A week ago Monseigneur d'Herbigny, titular Bishop of Ilion, delivered two addresses in London on his personal observations and experiences in Soviet Russia, and related facts which should be given widespread publicity, and should be reported in Parliament. Among other things, the Bishop spoke of the way in which tourists visiting Russia are hoodwinked by the apparent affluence of the cities, and by the open Churches, crowded with

worshippers, while all over the wide lands of Russia famine stalks, atheism is inculcated into the children, the Churches are empty and desecrated, the clergy, Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant alike, are persecuted, exiled, imprisoned. It is true, the Bishop added, that they are no longer shot, for, since the execution of Monseigneur Budkiewics, which aroused the indignation and horror of Europe, the Soviets have decided that death should come by subtler means to those who defy the orders of the Government and continue to preach the Word of God to the people.

Mr. Aren Strom's book, "Uncle Give Us Bread," which was published a short time ago, also gives a terrible picture of the miserable existence led by the peasantry in Russia, and describes **the unspeakable suffering endured by thousands of men and women and by millions of animals.** These are the helpless victims of the Bolshevik experiment which some writers have called the greatest experiment in the world. And yet, in defiance of Article Twenty-three of the League of Nations

Covenant, this suffering is allowed to go on without a protest or enquiry, or intercession on their behalf.

The deportation of the peasant population, driven out from their homes, sent to Turkestan, to Siberia, to the far North, herded together in horrible forced labour camps, under conditions we in England cannot realise, these are never mentioned in the English papers which scream with horror and indignation over the expulsion of Jews from Germany, and the arrest of dangerous Communists.

In 1933 a small book, entitled "Out Of The Deep," was published, and received only scant notice in the British Press. And yet this book contains letters which are so pitiful and tragic that they should rouse every thinking man and woman from their lethargy and make them determined to put an end to such appalling suffering. Here are only a few extracts from these letters: "Terrible, frightful things happen here. Mothers and fathers stand weeping to see their children so maltreated . . . The husband no longer knows his wife, children do not know their parents, one man does

not know the other . . . People eat the bark of trees and grasses . . . Take steps on our behalf. Help us for God's Sake, for we are dying of hunger and oppression."

This call has never been answered. Nothing has been done to ameliorate the conditions in the timber camps, and the forced labour camps in the mines and on the giant canals. Compulsory starvation still reigns in a country that should be the richest country in Europe. Thousands of innocent men and women still languish in Soviet prisons. Gradually, methodically, ruthlessly, Religion is being stamped out, and though the Christian Protest Movement has continued to publish the true facts of the persecution of the Church, the appalling sacrilege of the anti-Religious posters, and the suffering of the Russian people, very little notice has been taken of its appeal for help.

And Russia still continues to be a member of the League of Nations! Is it not time an enquiry was made into the conditions prevalent in a country whose representative makes his voice so predominant at Geneva?

## The Imperial Idea

By C. W. Domville-Fife

(Editor of "The Seagoer")

WHILE other of the important World Powers are seeking by all and every means, risking widespread war and enduring national privation, to obtain colonies and found empires for the future welfare of their peoples, Great Britain, with over three-and-a-half million square miles of oversea territory inhabited by sixty-four millions of people—exclusive of India and the self-governing Dominions—seems unable to do more than lend a few million pounds and provide a very able but nevertheless regulation-bound and consequently unimaginative government-personnel towards effecting the maximum development of these vast lands, possessing such a variety of climates, resources and supplies of labour, that, given the vital spark—the *Imperial idea*—would solve many of the problems that now confront the British Empire as a whole.

Taking, first, the attitude of the Imperial Government towards the Colonial Empire, as a measure of the relative importance it attaches to it when compared with other spheres of political activity, there is the evident fact that Parliament devotes little thought or time to furthering the development of the Crown Colonies and Protectorates. An hour or two each session, perhaps, with a half-empty House. Little opportunity has been given to the Secretary of State for the Colonies to originate and carry out any great constructive plan, or reorganisation, to facilitate economic and general development in the British lands overseas, to which this country, as the manu-

facturing centre of the Empire, will have to look in the very near future for a still greater proportion of its supplies and for an expansion of its protected markets.

This almost unconscious relegation of a great Department of State, which governs—and governs autocratically—about a sixteenth of the land area of the whole world and one out of every twenty-eight of its human inhabitants, to a position of seeming lethargy and impotence, is not only producing trenchant and even dangerous criticism far and wide over the Colonial Empire, but it also creates a vicious circle. The more successful a régime, in the administrative sense, the less spectacular are the events of that period in a part or the whole of the Colonial Empire. Its very excellence when viewed from the administrative standpoint is often the result of a negation of all effort to expand and develop. And so it is regarded by the growing commercial and agricultural communities in the Colonies. There should be healthy growing pains, youthful extravagances and optimistic plans.

What would be the state of development in almost every part of the British Colonial Empire if the thousand millions sterling that have been lost in Russian and other foreign loans during the past fifty years had been wisely employed in the exploitation of this sixteenth part of the world's surface?

How urgently necessary is a complete review of Colonial affairs may be gathered from the discon-

tent which is making itself manifest over wide areas. There has come into being one of the great disadvantages always cited against authoritarian rule, a *direct incentive to avoid initiative*. In many places this is producing a form of antagonism, which it is impossible, fairly, to condemn, between the non-official white communities and the local and Imperial Government.

The subordination of all advancement and healthy growth to a morbid desire for an unruffled administrative calm; the arrogant assertion that the rights of the natives must always come before the rights of white settlers; the wrongful measuring of the capabilities of an administration by its ability to shelve successfully the responsibilities which inevitably accompany a country's growth; are trends of thought and action that may well

cause the undoing of the great Empire work in which Britain takes a just pride. Collectively they form the antithesis of the Imperial idea.

In politics a lack of initiative, of ideas, of the acceptance of responsibility, would spell defeat. Where there are large native populations, however, there can be little hope of *real* self-government for relatively small white communities; to whom, nevertheless, many such countries owe their present development and ability to pay for the administration that is given them. And so to the exasperation with which they see their efforts for the betterment of the colony in which they live brought to nothing by administrative disinclination for *genuine* initiative, is added a hopeless outlook for the future.

## Forward the "Featherplane"

By Our Air Correspondent

**L**ORD SEMPILL, by flying from London to Berlin and back in a "featherplane" with a motor-cycle size engine, has shown that



Lord Sempill, who ought to have been given a permanent position as Air Minister, does not even get proper prominence in the papers when he breaks a record.

brute force is not necessarily one of the ingredients of aviation and has given the ultra-light aeroplane the biggest stimulus it has yet received. He has, as it were, consolidated and confirmed the work of a great many people and given an attractive illustration to the public of what these small machines can do.

*The Saturday Review* was one of the first papers in England to give prominence to the *Pou du Ciel* design of M. Henri Mignet. The machine attracted an

enormous amount of attention and is being built in hundreds at the present moment by amateurs of aviation. Meanwhile the B.A.C. Drone, which was the type of aeroplane used by Lord Sempill, had been undergoing a period of intensive development and a club had been formed offering instruction upon it. In addition the small two-seater Aeronca-J.A.P. was introduced to this country, and Flying Officer David Llewellyn flew one to Johannesburg from England. This machine weighs only 1,006 lb., although it is a two-seater, while Lord Sempill's machine weighs something under 400 lb., which is a great deal less than the smallest and babiest motor car.

Lord Sempill's journey cost him less than £1 each way, and Flying Officer Llewellyn budgeted at £10 for the flight from London to Cape Town.

Actually, adverse conditions increased the price to something above this figure. The beauty of these featherplanes, to use for them the only suitable term that has yet appeared, is that they are easy to fly, safe, and cheap in first cost and running cost. They are the kind of things which are much more likely to persuade the larger public to fly than ordinary light aeroplanes. They are much less awe-inspiring and most people who can drive a car feel, when they sit in one of these featherplanes, that they would have no trouble in flying it.

Private aeroplane ownership, it must be confessed, has made poor progress in the past. Even to-day the number of owners in Great Britain remains in the region of 600 and many of these are professionally connected in some way or another with aviation. But the featherplane offers tremendous opportunities for a big advance in private ownership. The prices are not so fantastically high, the machines themselves are less complicated and the whole outlook upon flying which they engender is closer to the private motoring outlook.

I was delighted to note the other day that the little ultra-light monoplane which has been designed and built by the Belgian branch of the Fairey Aviation Company had made an excellent flight on the Continent. If a big firm of established reputation and large resources could be persuaded to go in for the series production of featherplanes, there is little doubt that they could be sold as cheaply as the cheapest motor cars. At present all the big aviation firms are engaged upon the essential work of producing machines for the Royal Air Force; but it is to be hoped that the featherplanes will continue to be developed by the smaller firms and that they will achieve popularity. They might be the means of getting the country into the air and that would be a big step towards security.



# Face the Realities

By Robert Machray

**A**BYSSINIA is a State member of the League. Whether she should ever have been permitted to become one is outside the question now. She appealed to the League, and the League responded to her appeal. Encouraged by our Government and all the shouting partisans of Geneva, the League solemnly condemned Italy and proceeded to impose certain sanctions upon her on the ground that by hampering Signor Mussolini she was helping the "blameless Ethiopians"—who were far from blameless. But Mussolini went on with the war just the same; after six months he has complete victory in sight, and the League envisages abject defeat, a striking object-lesson, if ever there was one.

Once more the League has had its real powerlessness demonstrated before the eyes of all. Last week in an article headed "A State of Fact," I quoted a passage from a letter written by Professor Gilbert Murray, a protagonist of the Geneva Institution, particularly in England, which showed that he was losing his faith in the League. Why? Because experience has taught him that it does not possess the strength which is essential for carrying out its aims and verdicts. When he wrote, the Abyssinian collapse was not expected—at any rate, to come so soon; now, surely, he will lose faith in the League altogether.

## **A REMARKABLE STATEMENT**

Sir Austen Chamberlain, another and more famous advocate of Geneva, made a remarkable statement on Wednesday of last week about the League. He gave warning that in its "present imperfect conditions," membership of it increased, instead of diminished, the risks with which England and the Empire are confronted in the existing horribly tense international situation. The friends of the League asserted in the past that it was the safeguard of peace and a shield against war, and unfortunately—it is one of the most unhappy things in all our history—they imbued a great number of our people with that utterly false doctrine. Instead of seeing in it a safeguard and a shield, Sir Austen, taught by experience, like Gilbert Murray, now admits that it is a begetter of risks.

As things are, the truth about the League is that it is an extremely dangerous institution, and this all the more because under an illusory appearance of benevolence which conceals its real nature, it had succeeded in tricking some of the nations into supposing it was a safeguard, a shield, and all the rest of that stuff. Commenting on the recent

meeting of the League Council in London, a foreigner who took part in it said the League was "like a carpet hung up in front of a battery trained on it," and was just as much good when the firing began. To him the League was nothing but a delusion and a snare in presence of the realities of the situation, and he was thoroughly sick of it and its hollow pretensions.

Meanwhile, the atmosphere in high politics is impregnated again with peace plans, and though there are only two of them, the air is heavier than at any time since Ramsay MacDonald and Simon took in 1933 their peace plan to Rome, where Mussolini skilfully substituted for it one of his own, the result being nil, after an abundance of meetings and conversations without substance. Now, there is the peace plan put forward some days ago by Herr Hitler, and unquestionably it deserves, coming from such a source, to be carefully studied. Then there is the peace plan elaborated by the French Government in opposition, of course, to the German plan, and it, too, must be as sedulously examined.

## **AGE-OLD ANTAGONISM**

They are very different plans, as was certain to be the case, for behind them lie the age-old antagonism of France and Germany, and the fears, jealousies and hatreds of half a dozen other nations. Here the realities must also be faced. There will and indeed must be negotiations, with the usual plethora of meetings and conversations; and the League will be brought in, despite its proved incompetence. A world conference is on the addenda. Some of us had fondly hoped we had passed out of the age of great conferences; if we are to judge, as we should, by the fate of those, what is likely to be the fate of this? For heaven's sake, let us be realists, not sentimentalists.

What ought above all to be realised by us in this country is that, notwithstanding the peace plans and the prospect of a world conference, the nations of Europe press on night and day with the intensive development of their armament or rearmament programmes.

These nations are grimly facing the realities of the situation as they see them. Take for instance, Czechoslovakia, a small Power, but arming as if she was a Great Power in her inflexible determination to fight for her frontiers to the death. What a splendid example of the right spirit! And then let us ask, what of England? Are we facing the realities? It is very strange and infinitely depressing that so little is now being heard of our Government's programme of rearmament, inadequate as it was. Is it going on at all?

# The King's Sacrifice

By Dorothy Crisp

A LONDON evening newspaper recently published an article which was written by a Member of Parliament, and which was entitled, "Prime Ministers on the Cheap." The writer of the article expressed great indignation at the thought of a Prime Minister leaving Downing Street a poorer man than he entered it, though it is an axiom of all the great philosophers that a man should never be financially a gainer through his political service to the State.

He accused England of "sponging on her chief servant" and asked how this "rather squalid meanness" ought to be ended. But he entirely failed to disclose the fact—a fact which would seem most carefully guarded—that the House of Commons is committing every year a far worse meanness against a person infinitely more important to the country—His Majesty the King. When the facts enumerated below were presented to this newspaper they were acknowledged "with thanks"—but remained unpublished.

Is it not high time every citizen of the United Kingdom knew that the House of Commons is coolly taking several hundred thousand pounds each year out of the pocket of the King, while at the same time committing the impertinence of scrutinising his expenditure, and actually allowing from time to time impertinent comment from the I.L.P. members, who hope their impudence has an electioneering value!

## Royal Income

Most people in this country believe that the revenues of the King and the incomes of the Royal Family are charged upon the Treasury; that is, that they are taken from the pockets of the taxpayers. One has even heard an occasional Socialist "orator" state this supposition as a fact. But the truth is that the King and the Members of the Royal Family do not receive as much as one penny from their devoted subjects. Far from it! In actual fact, the country is "sponging" upon them to the extent of £300,000 annually. This is how so abominable a situation arose.

Up to the time of George III the income from the hereditary private property of the Kings of England went straight into the King's pocket, in exactly the same fashion as the private incomes of his subjects, and out of his own income the King maintained the upkeep of the Royal Palaces, the expenses of the Royal Family, and so on. But King George III found his income too small for its purpose, and he therefore came to an arrangement with Parliament. By this arrangement Parliament was allowed to collect the revenues of a considerable part of the King's hereditary property, in return for a fixed annuity which was, of course, larger than the income from the Crown property.

King George IV, on his accession, arranged for Parliament to control even more of his property in return for a yet larger fixed sum, and King William IV allowed Parliament to control all his hereditary revenues, except those of the Duchies of Cornwall and Lancaster. His successors, each at the beginning of his or her reign, have seen fit to follow this example and renew the arrangement, but though for a long time the Monarchs were the gainers, King Edward VIII by renewing this arrangement is making a great financial sacrifice. For with the increasing value of Crown property—the rents in Regent Street are a notable example—the income surrendered by the King is very considerably more than the incomes guaranteed in return by Parliament to all the Royal Family.

## The Civil List

In 1932, for example, the sum paid under the Civil List to all the members of the Royal Family amounted to £576,000. The revenues of the Duchies of Cornwall and Lancaster were £250,000 and £128,000 respectively. The income from the Crown lands was £1,300,000, so that in that year alone Parliament made £346,000 out of the Royal Family.

It is more than doubtful whether this arrangement, which has outlived its purpose, can any longer be justified, and it is certainly most outrageous that in such circumstances the I.L.P. members should be allowed to comment and quibble over the Royal Incomes, while by a sort of conspiracy of silence the rest of the House keeps the country completely ignorant of the true facts. These impertinent persons need constantly reminding that they draw a totally unjustified income from our pockets every year, and that while we could get along admirably without them, the Empire would be lost without the King.

If we *must* take hundreds of thousands from His Majesty each year, at least the whole country should be aware of this added cause to the great debt of gratitude they owe him. An M.P. informs us that we are "sponging on the Prime Minister." He forgets to remind us that the House of Commons is robbing the King.

If your friends find difficulty in obtaining the "Saturday Review" from their news-agents, ask them to send a postcard to The Publisher, "Saturday Review," 18-20, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C.2.

# Warships and Bombs

By Periscope

**D**URING the weeks when the name of the Minister for the Co-ordination of Defence was a matter for conjecture some optimists thought that he would be a vehicle for getting things done despite departmental jealousies and delays. Then Sir Thomas Inskip was appointed. Once again the Empire had been let down by Mr. Baldwin.

Sir Thomas must, by reason of his office, have at his disposal both knowledge and expert opinion. Yet, as soon as a number of private members, all of them ignorant of the truth and of the fact that by pressing their point they might delay the re-armament to which they are pledged, demanded that a new inquiry should be instituted to consider the vulnerability of warships to air attack, he came down to the vote-catching level. Inquiry there should certainly be. What matter if it could only consider questions which had already been considered *ad nauseam*?

## REDUNDANT WORK

And so a committee was appointed. In reality it is a sub-committee of the Committee of Imperial Defence. It is appointed to investigate the vulnerability of warships to air attack, and upon it must serve the Chiefs of Staffs of the Services concerned, regardless of the fact that they may have something better to do than serve upon purely redundant committees. Let us examine the evidence which is being given and which has not yet been at the disposal of the public. Much of it must still be regarded as secret. That is natural. One does not carry out difficult and costly experiments and then allow one's potential enemies to profit from them.

But much of the evidence can now be outlined. In the first place there was the series of experiments carried out by the United States Navy against ex-German warships and unwanted battleships of its own. These experiments were carried out under entirely artificial conditions. Moreover, they took place fourteen years ago, and material has developed considerably since that date. But these experiments remain of value in that they incorporated certain tests to discover the effect of underwater explosions in close proximity to a ship's hull. Yet even these would not be accepted by the British Admiralty as conclusive were it not for the fact that the results bear out completely the experience gained in the explosions of mines and torpedoes against and near a ship.

In recent years the British Admiralty has been by no means idle in the matter of air attack. A large number of people appear to think that the Admiralty has rested content and avoided experiments which might have given results adverse to the warship. This is far from being the case. Nobody heard anything about it at the time, and

it is only now possible to state the fact, but a British battleship was subjected to severe bombing attacks with live bombs of all sizes as recently as 1932. This was the battleship *Marlborough*—a fine ship which was consigned to the scrap-heap by Mr. Ramsay MacDonald under the iniquitous Naval Treaty of London. Yet in her last days this ship rendered inestimable service. The results of the trials cannot be made public in detail, but they showed the Admiralty, and the Air Ministry who assisted with the trials, that "blowing a battleship out of the water" with bombs from the air was sheer fiction.

The problem of hitting a warship with bombs has been investigated year after year with dummy bombs on the wirelessly controlled battleship *Centurion*. The Air Ministry has co-operated in these trials also. They have provided valuable training for personnel as well as data from which the proportion of bomb hits under varying conditions of weather can be fairly accurately forecast. But there remains one unknown factor in this matter of estimating the proportion of bomb hits which may be expected in war. No bombing aircraft in peace time can be made to carry out bombing under the fire of modern anti-aircraft guns.

But steps have been taken to arrive at a close estimation of the efficiency of anti-aircraft weapons under service conditions. To this end the Admiralty, in conjunction with the Air Ministry, evolved a pilotless aircraft.

## SPECIAL EXPERIMENTS

There still remained a number of matters unknown. To investigate these, special experiments have been necessary. In the first place there was the question of the penetration of a bomb when dropped from any given height. In the second place there was the question of the probable effect of bombs upon the superstructures of warships and particularly upon exposed gun mountings and control positions. Exhaustive trials have been carried out during the past year to investigate these problems. They have been conducted with great secrecy, and the details of the findings remain secret. But it is upon the cumulative experience of all these experiments that the Admiralty bases its opinion that the danger of bombs to warships is generally exaggerated.

All this mass of evidence must now be considered by the committee set up by the Minister for the Co-ordination of Defence. It is hardly necessary to point out that the Chiefs of Staffs of the Services, the only members of the committee likely to be able to draw accurate conclusions therefrom, have had these same matters under consideration day in and day out for many months, and that they have already reached their conclusions.



## RACING

# A New Scale of Weights

By David Learmonth

**T**HE announcement that the Jockey Club has invited the opinions of certain trainers on the weight-for-age scale is no surprise, nor even news to regular racing people. The fact is that the Jockey Club has been noting opinions on this point over a long period and has always kept an open mind as to the desirability of further alterations.

It must be understood that the present weight-for-age scale is not compulsory, and the Jockey Club makes this perfectly clear in its rules. It is published "under the sanction of the stewards . . . as a guide to managers of race meetings, but is not intended to be imperative." There are then added the significant words, "especially as regards the weights of two and three-year-olds relatively to the older horses in selling races early in the year."

Thus, it is clear that the Jockey Club has never regarded this scale, which it does not seek to impose unless an executive inadvertently omits the weight-for-age conditions from a race, as perfect. It is founded on a scale worked out by Admiral Rous, and revised by him in 1873, and it has since been modified in accordance with suggestions from leading trainers, the last time not many years ago.

Such a scale of weights, which seeks to set out a fair weight for two-year-olds and upwards to carry over varying distances of ground at different periods of the season, is naturally difficult to frame; and, once framed, it cannot be altered year after year, because several years' observation is necessary before any useful conclusion can be reached as to what changes should be made.

## Unduly Favoured?

At the moment those best fitted to judge are inclined to think that three-year-olds are unduly favoured as compared with three-year-olds in the Spring, but that from September onwards the reverse is the case, and they would like to decrease the gap slightly in the Spring and extend it a little in the Autumn. It seems probable that this will be agreed to.

However, the whole matter is not of great importance, for the simple reason that, since race-course executives are not bound to follow this scale, they are at liberty to frame conditions which will attract the largest number of entries of all ages. This they naturally do on account of the entrance fees, and most of them are sufficiently experienced to do the job well. Those who are not, on the other hand, can always study other programmes and copy the conditions of those races which attract the most entries. I am not saying, mind you, that this latter practice is desirable; in fact, in my opinion, it would soon lead to drab and stereotyped events.

There is, however, something else which a race-course has to do besides attract entries, and

that is to attract the public, and I am not at all sure that this is always a good thing for racing, though it would be excellent if the great mass of the public really understood the purpose of the game, which is to find out the real merits of horses.

I remember not long ago a race that was framed specially to attract an outstanding horse, which was very much in the public eye. The effect of the conditions was to provide a race which this horse could win in a canter. I cannot understand the thrill of watching a horse, however much in the limelight, cantering round the course and winning on a tight rein from an unworthy opposition and one, moreover, which the racecourse authorities have done their damndest to ensure shall be unworthy.

Yet the fact remains that the public will go to these artificial events which—thank Heaven!—are few and far between; but no one can pretend that this is for the good of racing, especially if the event is used by the trainer of the crack merely as part of the horse's preparation for something infinitely more important.

## A Difficult Job

Nevertheless, I do not envy those whose duty it is to frame the conditions of races. Handicaps, though the big ones draw large crowds, have the disadvantage that it is difficult for backers to find the winners, which annoys them. On the other hand, owners of good horses are chary of taking on other good horses in weight-for-age races except when they are really important, such as the Classics, and even in valuable events such as are held at Ascot they naturally pick and choose so as to have the greatest chance of picking up the rich prize, with the result that one never, or very seldom, sees, say, the first and second in the Derby meeting each other there again.

There is, of course, another reason for this, as the owners, with other and even more important events ahead, do not want to give their horses a harder race than is necessary.

It is obvious, therefore, that those responsible for the races at successful meetings are very skilled and experienced, and that though the proposed revision of the Jockey Club weight-for-age scale is all to the good, it cannot be regarded as absolutely vital, but merely as showing that the Stewards are very much alive.

There is, however, one other thing to which I wish they would once more apply their attention. This is the question of disqualification when one horse interferes with only one other one or two other ones in the race. At present it is placed last, but in many countries abroad, including France and India, it may be placed second or third. This rule is being tried under Pony Turf Club Rules this season at Northolt, Chelmsford and Portsmouth Park.

# GET RID of the LAGO EVICT the T

**I**N business, if a man betrays his trust, the law deals with him.

In private life if a man betrays his trust, society deals with him.

A fraudulent trustee is jailed: a false friend is ostracised.

**But in politics Statesmen can betray their trust and all that happens to them is that they continue to draw their fat salaries and to bask in the adulation of the poor electorate they have deceived.**

On the cover of this issue *The Saturday Review* exposes some terrible facts about the obsolescence of the British fighting forces.

Any student of modern British history must long ago have despaired of the Front Bench politicians remembering that they are in Office to govern and safeguard Britain and the British people.

upholding the British Constitution, not only betray their old allegiance—they as cynically betray their new allegiances.

By "HISTOR

Having decided that Britons shall not fight for Britain, **BUT SHALL FIGHT, WILLY-NILLY, FOR GENEVA AND RUSSIA;** having set their words to a number of treaties and pacts pledging Britain to all kinds of responsibilities abroad; and having taken care to anger and taunt the most powerfully armed of the enemies of Russia and Geneva, our chuckle-headed leaders have still not put themselves in a position to fill their bond.



R.A.F. Pilots complain of the old "Virginia" night bomber (shown here) which, although out-of-date in 1927, is still used.

**HANSARD COLDLY RECALLS THAT THE MINISTER FOR WAR CHEERFULLY REFUSED TO CONTEMPLATE BRITAIN'S EVER ARMING TO DEFEND HERSELF. THAT STAGGERING RECORD IS UNEXPUNGEABLE.**

The public prints over two years ago recorded Mr. Baldwin's view that Britain's vital need was arms, and the world knows how that vital need has been neglected.

But these withering internationals, these so-called Tories, charged with the duty of

The Army is unequipped with modern weapons. **The Territorial units have inadequate equipment even for air defence.** Much of what equipment they had was taken to the Near East when Italy was made the enemy of her old ally.

In the Navy, battleships and cruisers are alike **old in design and outmoded.** The best of our ships are reconditioned and patched up.

In the Air Force there are both **obsolete**

R.A.S. "Qu  
—old in de  
mod." R  
had up by

# LAGGARDS— e TRAITORS

“HISTORICUS”



H.M.S. "Queen Elizabeth"  
—old in design and out-  
moded." Replacement is  
held up by the laggards.

**engines and obsolete methods of training.** We are inferior in numbers and inferior in tactical command of the air.

The eleventh-hour efforts which are now being made to repair the ravages of fifteen years of deliberate disarming are stultified by two things—the lack of vision in the Lobby Politicians who are confronted with the herculean task, lawyers, city financiers and superannuated iron-masters, and the creaking system of finance and departmental red-tape which has to be used to order and distribute the equipment which is needed.

In addition the Government has done its pacifist master's work so well that our young men are not coming forward to man the Fighting Services. **THEY WILL NOT MARCH AT THE COMMAND OF MOSCOW; THEY WILL NOT DIE FOR THE GLORY OF GENEVA.**

What does all this amount to? It amounts to this.

**Our foreign policy has been shaped by Russia, through the oily brains of Litvinoff working through Ramsay MacDonald and his puppet, Anthony Eden. That policy has made us the almost inevitable victims of the wrath of the great anti-Bolshevik States, Italy and Germany. These States are heavily armed in the air and fully equipped for battle by land and sea.**

We are unarmed and unequipped.

The result of our foreign policy must be that we shall go down to barbarism before the assaults of nations that need never have been our enemies, or we shall survive as a race of helots.

**IF THIS IS NOT TREACHERY, WHAT IS? IF THIS IS NOT BETRAYAL, THEN BETRAYAL IS A MEANINGLESS WORD.**

Mr. Baldwin may prate of "peace in our time" and Mr. Duff Cooper may rely upon "civilisation" to save a heavily glutted but unarmed nation from the assault of nations armed but hungry for possessions.

Practical men and women know well that these aspirations are vain.

There is but one thing to be said—either retribution for the betrayal must come from within and our laggards replaced by vigorous men who **will** arm us, or retribution will come from without.

In the evil day when our open towns and defenceless millions are plunged into a new Pentecost of Calamity, we shall know whom to blame.

**It were better if those responsible for this appalling situation took to their heels now and made room for men who are men.**

**Let the puppets of Moscow who now occupy place give way to men who can use power and bring Britain back to safety and rescue her from the derision and danger into which she has been plunged.**



# His First Day

By Dan Russell

**A** DARK sky frowned upon the village green, where the hounds were meeting. A mild, west wind sighed gently in the branches of the leafless trees. The air was damp and warm. A good day for scent, the Master thought, and watched the eager hounds clustering round his horse. He raised his eyes and scanned the little crowd of sportsmen. Two or three pink coats were there, and several sporting farmers and, of course, the usual car and foot followers. Idly he surveyed them, occasionally lifting his whip to cap brim in salutation. He turned his head and saw something which brought an amused twinkle into his eyes.

At the edge of the green were a groom and a small boy. The man, mounted on an old chestnut, was a typical poker-faced, thin-lipped groom. The boy on the pony was a quaint little figure. He wore a bowler hat crammed down over his ears and his eyes were bright with excitement as he watched the hounds. His face was flushed, and he kept up a running flow of questions to his severe-looking guardian. The Master smiled.

"Good morning to you," he called, and raised his cap. The little boy flushed with pleasure as he raised his hat in turn.

"Did you hear that, Johnson?" he asked, "the Master spoke to me."

## "They're Moving Off"

"Now, Master Dick," replied the groom, "don't get excited. It's your first day with hounds, so don't forget all the things I've told you. Come on now, sir, they're moving off."

The little cavalcade jogged off down the village street, and the two set off behind them. They turned down a muddy cart-track and crossed two fields of roots. At the end of the second field was the covert, a small larch spinney. The Master threw in his hounds and began to draw. The boy listened to the sound of the horn in ecstasy. Suddenly a hound whined, then another and another until the spinney rang with their wild cry. The boy could scarcely contain himself.

"Oh, Johnson, isn't it lovely?" he cried.

At that moment there came a shrill holloa from the end of the covert. The fox was away, and hounds were pouring out of covert in his line. There was a thunder of hooves as fifty horses swept forward in their wake. The boy kicked his pony into a gallop and darted through the gate. The hounds were running hard and far away in front, their voices floated back to him and urged him forward. His heart was singing within him as he rode. This was glorious. It exceeded all that he had been told. There was the hedge, broken down by the foremost horsemen. The pony scrambled through with cat-like agility and landed safely on the other side. On they went, boy and pony, delirious with the excitement of the chase. John-

son, cantering behind, smiled grimly as he watched the little figure in front, hat pressed down over his ears, elbows and legs going as he urged the pony on.

For a mile they went without a stop. There had been no jumping, for they were well behind the field, and every hedge had its gap or gate. The pony's sides were heaving and the boy was breathless, but there was no faltering in the pace.

They came to the top of a long rise and there four hundred yards away were the hounds in a



Eager young Sportsmen wait impatiently by the spinney

big ploughed field. "What's the matter, why have they stopped?" cried the boy.

"Checked," came the reply, "an' a good thing, too. That there pony can do with a breather." They stood on the hill-top and watched the hounds as they cast over the wet plough. But there came no eager whimper to tell that they had regained the line. The clammy ploughland did not carry the tell-tale taint. The Master cast them all around,

but to no avail. The long drawn wail of the horn sounded as he called the scattered pack and set off to draw again.

"Home, Master Dick," said Johnson and turned his horse. "Your Mother said you was'n't to stay out too long first time."

Sorrowfully the boy reined in his pony "Oh, blow!" he said, and his voice was very near to tears. He glanced back at the hounds and field as he trotted on across the green grass. Then suddenly he stiffened in the saddle. "Look, Johnson," he whispered. "Under the hedge."

Johnson turned his head and there, creeping up the shadow of the hedge, he saw the hunted fox. Mud-plastered he was, and breathless, his tongue out and his white-tagged brush drooping in the dirt.

"Well done, sir," cried Johnson. "Now you holloa 'em on." Off came the bowler hat and the young voice was uplifted in a high screech. The Master heard that shrill childish voice and turning, saw the hat waving—waving frantically in the air.

"It's the budding sportsman," he muttered and

with a note on the horn galloped towards the excited figure on the hill-top. Before he reached it the hounds picked up the line and flashed on down the hedgerow. Over three fields they ran, then the boy heard their music change to a deep, savage growling. When he broke through the hedge the Master was off his horse and the hounds were rolling and tugging at a dead fox. The boy watched with glowing eyes. He had done it. If he hadn't seen it they wouldn't have killed it. The Master was coming towards him with something in his hand. The boy's heart leaped when he saw what it was. . . .

The shadows were descending when the two turned into the stable yard. The boy slipped off his pony and took the reeking brush from the brow-band. "What a lovely day," he said. "Thank you, Johnson, and good night."

"Good-night, sir," said Johnson. He watched the quaint little figure trot across the yard with the grim trophy clutched tightly in his hand, and a rare smile lightened his severe face.

"You'll do," he muttered, and led the horses into the stable.

# The Passing of the Fleet

By Fish-Hawk

THE announcement recently made, that both the "Gamecock" and "Red Star" trawling fleets have gone into voluntary liquidation marks the close of another phase in the history of our fishing industry.

Fleeting began long years ago in the days of sail when the Barking Fisheries were in existence, and Shadwell was still the main fish mart for London.

Actually there were at one time over a dozen fleets in the North Sea, employing some 1,500 or more sail—and now we see the passing of the last fleet, which was reduced to some 40 odd ships and eight carriers.

The difference between "fleeting" and the more modern method known as "single boating" is, that a "single boater" carries ice, in which her fish is packed as soon as caught, and she herself brings the catch to market.

## Dangerous Work

Fleeters, on the other hand, carry no ice, but transfer the fish by small boat to a carrier, this ship bringing the entire fleet's catch to market, the fleet meanwhile remaining at sea fishing.

The boarding of the fish in small boats is the most dangerous and arduous work, and is the cause of many fatal accidents, while the minor casualties sustained are very great.

The scene alongside a carrier in rough weather beggars description—the ship rolling 40 deg. each way is awash with the heavy seas, while the small boats along her lee-side crash and grind together

as the heavy six stone boxes of fish are being got aboard. No-one who has ever taken an active part in such work can regret the passing of such a system, for the risks entailed have never been justified to any thinking man.

The trawlers, or fleeters as they were called, stayed at sea for spells of five or six weeks, depending on the coal carried, fishing seven days a week and working 15 to 18 hours per day. At the end of the trip they returned home for three days and then set out again, receiving five days at home after the second trip. The men thus spent about ten and a half months at sea out of every twelve.

## A Comparison

Much is said of the dangers of coal mining, and I have no wish to belittle its dangers, but by comparison with deep sea fishing it does not appear so bad. For the past five years the casualty figures for the two industries are as follows:

Mining per 1,000, 1.08: Fishing per 1,000, 1.8.

Many of our best fishermen are ex-fleeters, and it was to the very last a great place for men to start their fishing careers, even though they never reached the bridge of a trawler as skipper.

The men of the fleets were a magnificent crowd; rough they might be, but finer seamen and better friends no man could ask for; and, though the system has now gone for ever, their work will long be remembered as a saga of heroism and hard work unsurpassed in the industrial annals of our Empire.

*Ave atque Vale.*

# LETTERS FROM O

## The Most Contemptible Figure

We invite our readers to write to us expressing their views on matters of current interest. Readers are requested to state their opinions as concisely as possible.

DEAR MADAM,—I beg to thank you for your kind courtesy in sending me a copy of the *Saturday Review* with whose views I am entirely in agreement.

Baldwin is the most contemptible figure ever existent in British politics.

Turf Club, Piccadilly, W.1.

SEYMOUR ORMSBY-GORE.

### Backing Losers

SIR,—I do not refer to the Grand National but to our National Government, who have consistently pursued this policy; they supported the League of Nations in declaring that Italy was an aggressor. Unfortunately for them Mussolini merely ignored this declaration.

They then proceeded to "back" Sanctions, with the following disastrous results:—We forfeited the friendship of our War ally Italy, also her coal trade of about 5 million tons annually. Newfoundland lost her fish trade; Jugo Slavia protested that Sanctions were hitting her trade to bolster up the League; we turned "milch cow" and gave her trade concessions in compensation, regardless of the damage we inflicted on our agricultural interests.

In our anxiety to keep the League alive we made the tentative offer of Zeila with a mere 600 square miles of British territory. If there is any foundation for the assertion that our ships were short of shells (and this I believe has never been denied) had hostilities broken out in the Mediterranean—we should have again "backed a loser." The Government would probably have fallen—a repetition of the "Cordite Scandal."

### Collective Nonsense

We are informed that we are rearming, first for "collective security," secondly, for the defence of the Empire. Surely it would be more logical and in the interests of truth to substitute on our recruiting posters for "King and Country need you" "Collective Security needs you." I venture to suggest this would prove but another loser in the already long list of Government failures.

May I close with quoting a line from Bacon? "It is good also not to try experiments in States except the necessity be urgent and the utility evident." Has the experiment of the State supporting the League of Nations been a success? It has resulted as I have shown in a long list of failures.

A League of All Nations might be a success, but the League as at present constituted is an utter failure and we as a nation should not "back" it any more. Away with this appalling delusion.

SEPTUAGENARIAN.

### Battering a Brick Wall

SIR,—The present Foreign situation seems to be that our Ministers are prepared to land us in any commitments so long as they can persuade France and Germany not to quarrel.

I remember reading an excellent article a little while ago which quite correctly pointed out that these two

peoples have been fighting each other for the past thousand years. In these circumstances it seems reasonable to assume that they will continue to fight each other for the next thousand years on until one of them disappears from the world altogether.

Is it not, therefore, rather silly of Mr. Eden and Co. to jeopardise the prosperity and even the safety of our own country by trying to alter the inevitable?

I remember St. Paul's remarks about "Kicking against the pricks." It would be a very good thing if the Cabinet remembered them too and kept Great Britain aloof from these foreign entanglements.

Middlesbrough.

J. I. RANKIN.

### If We only Had a Chamberlain

SIR,—What wonderful memories are conjured up in the name of Joe Chamberlain! The Right Honourable Joseph Chamberlain was the most outstanding political figure in those Tariff Reform days.

The great "Joe" made Birmingham and would have made the British Empire, the glorious ideal, into reality if he had only been the Prime Minister of England.

The greatest tragedy, not only to him personally, but to the British nation, was the sad fact that he had not attained to the Premiership.

Since he passed away we have had mediocrities in comparison to that sterling fighter whose whole heart was to make the Empire strong and respected by the rest of the world. It was not to be. But the present muddling Cabinet is a timely reminder of that truly famous man who could have been the greatest Prime Minister of all time.

ADMIRER.

### Historic Caister "Look Out"

SIR,—Recently the Caister-on-Sea Boatman, from whom the Lifeboat crew are drawn, were deprived of their "Look-out" or Observatory, the site of which was required for commercial purposes. The Royal National Lifeboat Institution has kindly given permission to the members of the Lifeboat crew to make use of the Lifeboat shed, but this provides very restricted accommodation and is not well suited for the purpose of a "Look-out."

The Caister Lifeboat station, as many are aware, holds the record for life-saving throughout the British Isles and there is no doubt their "Look-out" proved a valuable aid to this splendid achievement.

As an instance of its value the writer witnessed the saving of 10 shipwrecked sailors who were compelled to take to their small boat in a fierce storm which was battering their stranded ship to pieces several miles out. They were sighted from the Caister "Look-out" and saved by Lifeboatmen in the nick of time from certain death. It was a dramatic incident which space alone prevents me from giving fuller details, but it is only one of many in the history of the Caister "Look-out" of over 100 years.

However, with the approval of Lord Elmley, Member of Parliament for West Norfolk, it is hoped to build a new "Look-out."

A. J. MAIN.

Hon. Sec., Caister-on-Sea Branch,  
Royal National Lifeboat Institution.



# OUR READERS

## Liquidate this Incubus

SIR,—Some time ago a Sedition Bill was passed which made it illegal for anyone to undermine the loyalty or morale of His Majesty's Forces.

I am no lawyer but logically it seems to me that it must be as great a crime wilfully to persuade potential recruits not to enlist in these forces.

This is exactly what the League of Nations Union is busily engaged in doing without even a protest from the Government.

I say plunge the leaders into gaol and if possible hang them. The top of the Marble Arch would be a very good place for this as representing as nearly as possible Tyburn.

In days gone by such men would not even have been given the honour of beheading; but would have been hanged, drawn and quartered. We do not commit such barbarities now; but really we cannot afford to allow to remain unpunished, the potential murderers of thousands of British subjects while hanging the person who murders one.

Luton, Beds.

D. A. MINTON.

### For King and Country

SIR,—Lady Houston is quite right in what she says on the cover of the *Saturday Review*. It is iniquitous that our young men should be asked to fight for an abstract and now emasculated ideal, the League of Nations.

But what is not only iniquitous but Gilbertian is that youths should be enlisted to "fight for the League" while the League of Nations Union is busy saying that its members would not fight at any price and urging others not to join the colours.

Swansea.

MORGAN PRICE.

### How to get Recruits

SIR,—It does not require a prize of £1,000, which I see one newspaper is offering, to discover how to encourage recruiting.

1. Disband the League of Nations Union and try the leaders for High Treason.
2. Leave the League.
3. Disqualify for the dole as not genuinely seeking work all those applying for it who are of military age and have not offered themselves to all three Services.
4. Replace Sir Thomas Inskip by Mr. Winston Churchill so that recruits may have some assurance that they will be adequately armed.

Worthing.

(Miss) VIOLET BLOUNT.

### A Coronation Suggestion

DEAR MADAM,—

Within the next few months there will no doubt be many patriotic societies considering the best means by which they can commemorate our new King's Coronation. May I suggest that patriotic people with the knowledge of the King's interest in Aviation should found scholarship funds to enable youngsters wishing to enter one of the excellent civil aviation schools already in existence.

Everyone will bear in mind the magnificent work done for British aviation by you and on that account might be interested in the proposed scheme and make suggestions.

Blagreaves Oaks, Littleover Hollow,  
Derby.

K.M.

### Insidious Communism

SIR,—May I be allowed the hospitality of your columns to draw attention to a grave danger which has arisen through the belated decision of our "National" Government to rearm?

Since the necessity for rearmament in a hurry has arisen from unjustifiable disarmament, it seems strange that the task should be entrusted to the individuals who are responsible for our present perilous position. However this may be, it is important that we should watch very carefully their plans to rectify their former blunders, particularly as there are, within the "National" Government, individuals who are supporters of a conspiracy which is proceeding under the seemingly harmless title of "Planning" but which is, in fact, revolution by stealth.

The aims of this "Planning" conspiracy are that independent manufacturers should be compelled to amalgamate with the combines; that agriculture should be industrialised, both being placed under the rule of Boards, or Soviets; and that the competition of independent shopkeepers should be eliminated, ostensibly in the interests of the consumers.

The prosperity of this country must come to an end if these Plans are allowed to materialise. Forcible amalgamations of industry are a major cause of unemployment and of decline in the quality of the goods produced. This, in turn, must lead to a considerable falling off in their export. In retail trading, similarly, it is only in the free competition of shopkeepers that consumers can find true safeguards as to quality and price.

A considerable part of this Plan is already in operation. The Agricultural Marketing and other Boards differ but slightly from the Soviets of Russia, and their administrators, who are Commissars, prevent the citizen's access to the Courts of Justice. The Electricity Supply Bill and the Cotton Industry Bill are parts of the Plan; and the Coal Industry is now threatened with Planning, whilst Section 24 of the last Finance Act gives special privileges to industries which have submitted to being Planned.

Although rearmament is undoubtedly necessary, it is of the utmost importance that it should not be used as a pretext for encroachments upon the right to free and private enterprise in industry and trade, upon which our national greatness has been based, and upon which alone it can endure.

ARTHUR ROGERS,

Hon. Secretary, Liberty Restoration League.

### The School Age

MADAM,—

I entirely agree with the sentiment expressed in your paper relative to the proposed raising of the school leaving age to 15 years old.

If children are able to pass an examination which indicates that they will be able to benefit by the additional year so be it, otherwise our money will be wasted on the only people who will gain anything thereby, the elementary school teachers who have had every means at their disposal to agitate for this gross waste of public funds.

J. P. BACON PHILLIPS,

Burgess Hill, Sussex.

## CORRESPONDENCE—Continued

## Tom Tiddler's Ground

SIR,—I was astounded to read in the newspapers this morning that the question of oil sanctions against Italy had again cropped up and that the British Government had been roused to intense anger by the destruction of Harar.

Only a day before I had been led to understand that Mr. Eden's desire was that Britain and Italy should go hand in hand to police the Rhine; now that the British Embassy in Rome has been mobbed by Fascist students, which cannot possibly have caused any surprise after what must have been about our fourteenth *volte face* since our ignominious meddling in other people's affairs began! I wonder whether our Foreign Secretary still thinks that Italian troops will be sent to join ours on what may be far from a picnic in Germany?

It seems that Mr. Eden, like many children not yet out of the nursery, to say nothing of a number of grown up people, would like to eat his cake and keep it at the same time. Unfortunately, Mussolini happens to be a realist, who is not in the least likely to play this game of let's pretend.

## Hitler Must Laugh

Our Cabinet seem to regard Geneva as a sort of Tom Tiddler's ground in which they can skip over the boundary line, annoy other nations who are armed to the teeth, and bound back again with impunity. Doubtless Mr. Eden has more vivid recollections of this nursery game than I have; but if my memory serves me right it was always open to the other side to retaliate.

Moreover, we are not dealing with children, but with a courageous and virile race welded together by a great leader; and the sooner Mr. Eden, Mr. Baldwin and the whole lot of them realise this the better. I fancy Herr Hitler must be laughing up his sleeve at the latest development, which has absolutely played us into his hands.

I am not a septuagenarian, neither have I one foot in the grave; but, in view of Mr. Eden's utter childishness, I feel the only suitable way of signing myself is,

OLD FOGEY.

Maidstone, Kent.

## Supporting Alien Communists

SIR,—I recently received a circular inviting me to subscribe to a fund for establishing in England aliens who had fled their country "for political reasons." In other words, foreign Socialists and Communists.

The Society has a well-known scientist and peer as President, and well-known professors on the Committee. There is no reason to suppose that these men, who are of considerable academic distinction, are themselves Communists; but, it is well that those who receive the circular should know how their contributions will actually be spent.

There are too many people in England who allow their enthusiasms to outweigh their judgment. Have people forgotten the Bolshevik scientist at Cambridge who, after the University had provided him with costly apparatus, returned to Russia and completed his researches there, thus giving that country the benefit of work for which Englishmen had paid?

COMMON SENSE.

## Confiscatory Legislation

SIR,—May I draw attention to the muddle which the Government has made over slum clearance?

After the war, when there was a housing shortage, the Rent Restriction Act was passed, under the provisions of which a landlord could not turn out a tenant unless he found him alternative accommodation. This was modified later when the situation became easier; but only by decontrolling the higher rented houses, the lowest rented ones still remain under the same control.

No exception was made in the case of a good landlord genuinely intending to pull down slum dwellings and rebuild. As a consequence, many have been prevented from doing so.

What happened next? The local authority promptly scheduled the dwellings for demolition under a slum clearance scheme, with the result that the landlord was deprived of property without proper compensation. This is barefaced robbery in its worst form.

L. H. MARTEN.

Greenwich.

## The Black Pacts

SIR,—I see that the Government are again proposing to negotiate an agreement with the Argentine whereby that country will be permitted to import meat to the detriment of our farmers.

The reason why the Government ignores the claims of agriculture—the largest individual industry in Great Britain by the way—is on account of pressure from the international financiers who have invested money in South America and cannot get it out.

The financiers press the Government to "unfreeze their credits," which our Ministers obediently proceed to try to do. The Argentines then blandly say, "All right, we will let a little of this money out of our country if you will let our meat come in free, otherwise the money will stay where it is."

It is true that there are private investors who are not financiers who have funds in the Argentine; but, surely the moral is "Invest your money in the Empire."

A. C. DAWSON.

Tunbridge Wells.

SIR,—Mr. John Haslam, M.P., in an excellent letter to *The Field* on the proposal of the Milk Marketing Board to establish butter factories on the Danish as opposed to the New Zealand system has pointed out a fallacy that should be self-evident.

The argument of the board is that since Danish butter fetches a higher price in the English market than New Zealand butter, it must be better; but, Mr. Haslam rightly says that this is not so, but that the high price of Danish butter is attributable to a deep rooted preference in the North for butter to which it has been long accustomed.

This is undoubtedly the Truth. The established product can always command a higher price *for a time*, than a new one, however good the latter be—for how long depends upon various factors, one of them being the help given by those who distribute the new product or by those indirectly interested, in this case surely the Government.

J. F. SWAINE.

Reading.

## Pickwick Centenary

SIR,—Your more erudite readers will know that, according to tradition, Charles Dickens found the name of the immortal Mr. Pickwick in Bath. As the Pickwick centenary is being celebrated this month, may I make the fact known to those Pickwick lovers whose literary history may be weak?

The original Mr. Pickwick was the well-known coach proprietor of the White Hart Inn, whom Dickens met during his various visits to Bath a hundred years ago, and on the site of the original White Hart Inn, now the Grand Pump Room Hotel, there is to-day a mural tablet bearing these words—

On this site stood  
THE WHITE HART INN  
Demolished 1867

Eleazer & Moses Pickwick Proprietors.

Dickens, I may perhaps recall, first visited Bath on his way to report a by-election in 1835. He was so impressed with the beauties and interest of the city that he visited it again the following year. The result of his observations was seen in "Pickwick Papers."

T. STURGE COTTINELL,  
Bath Branch, Dickens Fellowship.

22, Pulteney Street, Bath.

# New Books I Can Recommend

By the Literary Critic

THAT famous secret Colonial Office document, whose publication in an Italian newspaper caused a flutter of excitement in Whitehall recently, took much pains to emphasise the fact that we had practically no interest in Abyssinia beyond the safeguarding of the sources of the Blue Nile in the Lake Tana region.

It is because of that interest that considerable importance attaches to the account now given by Major R. E. Cheesman of the explorations he carried out in 1925 in the North-Western districts of Abyssinia, while he was there as British Consul.

Survey work was not, of course, part of his duties, but it was one of his hobbies and, fortunately, he was able to indulge in it with the full approval of his official superiors and without any opposition from the Abyssinians.

His book, "Lake Tana and the Blue Nile" (Macmillan, illustrated, 18s.), would have appeared many months earlier had it not been that his original typed manuscript was lost in a car that was stolen.

Perhaps this misfortune was not wholly an evil, since otherwise his book might have been treated as only yet another of those purely ephemeral volumes inspired by the outbreak of the Italo-Abyssinian war. It certainly deserves a much better fate.

## Large Canyon and Big Waterfall

Before Major Cheesman undertook his surveys of Lake Tana and the course of the Blue Nile, the outside world knew extraordinarily little about the whole area surveyed. In fact, only

"This much was known, that the river during most of its journey through Abyssinia travels in a huge canyon about a mile deep and twelve to eighteen miles across, with mountains towering above on each bank, their sides covered with uninhabited forest.

"It is probably larger than the Grand Canyon of Colorado and is certainly much more inaccessible."

There were all sorts of queries unanswered. For example, were there lakes in the canyon; did the river in dropping 4,500 feet between Lake Tana and the Nile gauge at Rosieres descend in big falls or in rapids and cataracts; was there any area suitable for irrigation schemes; and finally were there any suitable sites for reservoirs?

Major Cheesman, as a result of his explorations, found that there were no lakes below the Tana Lake; that there was only one big fall (at Tisisat, 150 feet); that there were two possible, but no outstanding sites for reservoirs; and that neither the valley of the Blue Nile nor any of that river's tributaries contained any level area of land suitable for irrigation projects.

## A Wild West Robin Hood

The "find-the-lady" trick has many variants and Jefferson Randolph Smith was a pastmaster in one of them, the offer to a gullible public of the chance of picking out from packets of soap the

"prizes" that were wrapped up in currency notes of high denomination.

This trick won him his nickname of "Soapy Smith" and incidentally his first step up the ladder of notoriety.

His venue was the old Wild West of Colorado and later the goldfields of the Klondike.

From street-corner trickster he graduated to gangster leader and dictator of gold and silver boom towns, combining the defence of vice and crime with generous acts of charity and even benefactions to the Church.

Hence his biographers, Messrs. William Ross Collier and Edwin Victor Westrate ("The Reign of Soapy Smith," Cassell, illustrated, 7s. 6d.), have some excuse for describing him in their entertaining book as the "Robin Hood of the Frontier."

## Latest Fiction

Why Miss Rebecca West calls her novel "The Thinking Reed" (Hutchinson, 8s. 6d.), is a mystery, because hardly any of her characters are capable of thinking at all. It produces on the reader an impression of waste.

Why should so much wit and brilliance be wasted on such boring people? Cleverness there is in plenty, but all its scintillations fly off into the deep night of dullness. It is very hard to have any patience with the heroine Isabelle, though the hero Mare Sallafranque has a definite appeal.

Fiction readers who love a good laugh will naturally turn to P. G. Wodehouse's latest—though personally I do not think by any means funniest—book, "Young Men In Spats" (Herbert Jenkins).

They will also do well to introduce themselves to a new humourist, Mr. Geoffrey Clayton, whose "What Price Gloria!" (Harrap) is decidedly witty and entertaining; in fact, one of the most amusing books I have read for a very long time.

Another extremely clever and witty novel is Guy Pocock's "Period Programme" (Dent), the story of a love-thwarted hero who seeks distraction by gathering together a curious collection of people to form a Cathedral town band.

If one is not too critical about possibilities, there is also much entertainment to be derived from following the adventures that befall the various temporary possessors of a ring in "Women Had To Do It" (by Geoffrey Ludlow, Ivor Nicholson and Watson).

Few Secret Agents can have more exciting lives than Rupert Grayson's famous Hero, Gun Cotton, and the faculty of both author and hero for providing thrills is very much in evidence in "Gun Cotton Goes to Russia" (Grayson).

An excellent tale, if a somewhat unusual one for Major P. C. Wren, is "Bubble Reputation" (Murray).



## THEATRE NOTES

### "Red Night"

Queen's Theatre

By James Hodson

IT is unfortunate that "Red Night," by James Hodson at the Queen's Theatre, has not met with the full support it deserved and that it has already been taken off.

As a presentation of modern war, it has considerable merits but it lacks the fire and purpose of "Journey's End." "Journey's End" was a play that seemed to have been written while the war was still in progress and "Red Night" on the other hand is obviously looking back at the past from a distance, and a great many comments appear which could never have been made at the time. Privates on a wiring party who were capable of discussing Keats' Ode to a Nightingale would have had a clear notion that they were fighting to save their country and Empire and it is only in these bemused times of uncertain peace that people project on the men who fought and died theories as to the futility of their sacrifice.

The play was very well mounted and produced. Mr. Robert Donat as the hero played a part which was too vague to be impressive, but Mr. George Carney as Private Harry Hollinwood gave a very remarkable performance and Mr. John Mills as Private Syd Summers was excellent.

### "Love from a Stranger"

New Theatre

By Frank Vosper

MR. VOSPER'S play, "Love from a Stranger," is based on a story by Agatha Christie (*vide* programme). How much of the play is Vosper and how much Christie I cannot say, but the result of the combination is a "thriller" whose final curtain leaves one stunned for a moment by its sheer horror.

The play opens innocently enough. Two young women, Mavis Wilson and Cecily Harrington, having won £10,000 each in a sweepstake, decide to let their flat furnished and go off, Mavis to travel and Cecily to marry her fiancé, Nigel Lawrence, who is due to arrive that afternoon from the Sudan. Cecily's aunt, Miss Garrard, is helping with the packing, but she and Mavis decide to go out and leave Cecily to await the arrival of her fiancé.

Instead of the fiancé, however, a stranger—prospective tenant—walks in, having found the door on the latch. Cecily falls in love with him, dismisses her fiancé and marries the stranger, Bruce Lovell. So much for the first act.

The two subsequent acts in which the infamy of Bruce Lovell, five times wife murderer and fortune-seeker, is revealed must be seen to be appreciated, and I will not disclose the end of the story; better to go to see it for yourselves.

The cast is admirable. Frank Vosper himself combines attraction and repulsiveness in his characterisation of Bruce Lovell in a most subtly sinister manner, and Marie Ney's interpretation of the part of Cecily Harrington is sensitive to a

degree. Muriel Aked as the spinster aunt supplies the necessary comic relief in the play, and Esma Cannon as Ethel, the maidservant, and S. Major Jones as Dr. Gribble each contribute a vignette as good as any I would wish to see.

The play is excellently produced by Murray Macdonald.

### "Trudi Schoop and her Comic Ballet"

Embassy Theatre

A REFRESHING and unique show. Trudi Schoop and her ballet are not only finished dancers but first-rate actors as well. I have not seen better mime. The two ballets, "Want Ads" and "Fridolin on the Road," are delicious bits of fooling, beautifully arranged and carried out. They have the intimacy of a charade in which the audience is invited to join.

Trudi Schoop needs no words with which to convey the lightest shade of meaning to her audience. And what a delightful creature she is—full of unexpected drollery. But it is by no means a one-man show. Clever as she is, Trudi Schoop is wise enough not to allow the show to depend on her efforts alone; in fact, my chief trouble was that I had not several pairs of eyes with which to watch every member of the cast all the time.

These dancers speak with every movement of their bodies; they can suggest a whole sentence by the movement of a foot, the turn of a wrist. At moments they skip about the stage with the agility of mountain goats or whirl like furies, but with every movement beautifully balanced and controlled.

The Ballet is performed to the accompaniment of two pianos. The music, by Paul Schoop, is full of humour and played with refreshing gusto by Paul Schoop and Huldreich Fruh in "Want Ads" and by Max Fickel and Lothar Peri in "Fridolin."

The costumes designed by Max Schoop have just that touch of the grotesque that is needed, and the whole production has a finish about it most pleasant to see.

### "Her Last Adventure"

Ambassadors Theatre

By Mrs. Belloc Lowndes.

AFTER watching this play for five minutes I was nearly certain that I was dreaming. A late-comer treading on my toes assured me that I was not, and that this "feuilletonique" piece of Peg's Paper nonsense was really taking place on the stage of a West End theatre. Such stilted dialogue has rarely, surely, been written before, nor has a "thriller" started its hair-raising journey with so many sign-posts attached!

My heart bled for a team of actors and actresses headed by Jane Carr, Margaret Webster, George Mulcaster and H. G. Stoker. Their courage and aplomb in the face of such overwhelming odds was admirable, but frankly a sheer waste of effort. I should be very interested to know what prompted Mr. Carroll to present this play.

C.S.

# The "SATURDAY REVIEW"

## REGISTER OF SELECTED HOTELS LICENSED

**ABERFELDY**, Perthshire. — Station Hotel. Rec., 2. Pens., 4 to 5 gns. Tennis, golf, fishing, bowling.

**ALEXANDRIA**, Dumbartonshire. — A'bert Hotel. Bed., 10; Rec., 2. Pens., 3 gns. Lun., 2/6; Din., 3/6. Fishing, Loch Lomond.

**AVIEMORE**, Inverness-shire. — Aviemore Hotel. Bed., 100; Rec., 4. Pens., 5 gns. to 10 gns. Golf, Private. Fishing, shooting, riding, tennis.

**AYLESBURY**. — Bull's Head Hotel, Market Square. Bed., 24; Rec., 4. Pens., 4 gns. W.E., £2/7/6. Garden, golf, tennis, bowls, fishing.

**BAMBURGH**, NORTHUMBERLAND. — Victoria Hotel. Rec., 3. Pens., 6 gns. Tennis, golf, shooting, fishing.

**BELFAST**. — Kensington Hotel. Bed., 70; Rec., 5. Pens., 4 gns.; W.E., Sat. to Mon., 27/6. Golf, 10 mins., 2/6.

**BELFRA**. — Grand Hotel. H. & C. Fully licensed. Billiards. Very moderate.

**BOURNE END**, Bucks. — The Spade Oak Hotel. Bed., 20. Rec., 4 and bar. Pens., 5 to 7 gns. Tennis, golf, bathing.

**BOWNESS-ON-WINDERMERE**. — Rigg's Crown Hotel. Pens., 5 gns. to 7 gns. Golf, 1½ miles. Yachting, fishing.

**BRACKNELL**, Berkshire. — Station Hotel. Bed., 7; Rec., 2. Pens., 3½ to 4 gns. W.E., Sat. to Mon., 2 gns. Golf, riding.

**BRIGHTON**, Sussex. — Sixty-six Hotel. — Bed., 33; Rec., 5; Pens., from 4½ gns. W.E. from 32/6. Golf, 9 courses in vicinity. Tennis, bathing, boating, polo, hunting.

**BROADSTAIRS**, Kent. — Grand Hotel. Pens., from 5 gns. W.E., from £1 per day. Lun., 4/6; Din., 6/6. Golf, tennis, bathing, dancing.

**BURFORD**, OXON. — The Lamb Hotel. Bed., 12; Rec., 3; Pens., 4 gns. to 5 gns. W.E., 15/- per day. Golf, trout fishing, riding, hunting.

**BURY ST. EDMUNDS**, Suffolk. — Angel Hotel. Bed., 35; Rec., 2. Pens., 5 gns. W.E., 2 gns. Lun., 3/6; Din., 5/6. Golf fishing, racing.

**CALLANDER**, Perthshire. — Troasachs Hotel, Troasachs. Bed., 60. Pens., fr. 5 gns. Lun., 3/6; Din., 6/-. Golf, fishing, tennis.

**CAMBRIDGE**. — Garden House Hotel, nr. Pembroke College. Pens., 3½ to 5 gns. W.E., 14/- to 17/6 per day. Golf 3 miles; boating, tennis.

**CARDIFF**. — Park Hotel, Park Place. Bed., 115; Rec., 4. Pens., 7 gns. W.E. (Sat. Lun. to Mon. Brkfst.), 37/6. Golf.

**CLOVELLY**. — New Inn, High Street. — Bed., 30; Rec., 1. Pens., 5 to 6 gns. Golf, fishing, sea bathing.

**CLYNDERWEN**. — Castle Hotel, Maer-clochey. Pens., £2 10/-. Lun., 1/6; Din., 2/6. Golf, 12 miles away.

**COMRIE**, Perthshire. — Ancaster Arms Hotel. Bed., 10; Rec., 3. Pens., £3 10/-. W.E., 12/- per day. Tennis, golf, fishing, bowls.

**CONISTON**, ENGLISH LAKES. — The Waterhead Hotel. Pens., from £5 10/-. Golf, boating, putting green, tennis.

**DOWNDERRY**, CORNWALL. — Sea View, Bed., 9; Annex, 5. Pens., from 3½ gns. W.E., from 35/-. Golf, fishing, tennis.

**DULVERTON**, Som. (border of Devon). — Lion Hotel. Pens., 4 gns. W.E., 12/6 per day. Golf, 3 miles. Fishing, riding, hunting, tennis.

**DUNDEE**. — The Royal British Hotel is the best. H. & C. in all bedrooms. Restaurant, managed by Prop. Phone: 5095.

**ELY**, Cambs. — The Lamb Hotel. Bed., 20; Rec., 5. Pens., 5 gns. W.E., £1 15/-. Lun., 3/6; Din., 5/-. Boating.

**FALMOUTH**, Cornwall. — The Manor House Hotel, Budock Vean. Bed., 46; Rec., 2. Pens., from 5 gns. to 8 gns. Golf, boating, fishing, tennis.

**GLASGOW**, W.2. — Belhaven Hotel. 22 to 26, Belhaven Terrace. Bed., 66; Rec., 6. Pens., from £3 5/-. Lun., 3/-. Din., 6/-. Tennis, golf.

**GLASGOW**, C.2. — Grand Hotel, 560, Sauchiehall St., Charing Cross. Bed., 110. Pens., 6 gns.; W.E., 18/6 per day. Tennis courts adjacent. Golf, 1/- per round.

**GREAT MALVERN**, Worcestershire. — Royal Foley Hotel. Bed., 32; Rec., 3. Pens., from 5 to 7 gns.; W.E., 15/- to 17/6 day. Golf, putting green.

**GULLANE**, East Lothian. — Bisset's Hotel. Bed., 25; Rec., 5. Pens., 4 to 5 gns. W.E., 14/- to 16/- per day. Tennis courts, Golf, swimming, riding, bowling.

**HAMILTON**, Lanarkshire, Scotland. — Royal Hotel. Bed., 12; Rec., 3. Pens., from 3 gns. W.E., 25/-. Golf, tennis, bowls. Tel. 164. Geo. Dodd, proprietor.

**HASLEMERE**, Surrey. — Georgian Hotel. Bed., 26; Rec., 4. Pens., 5 gns.; W.E., 35/- to 47/6. Tennis, golf.

**HERNE BAY**. — Miramar Hotel, Beitinge. Bed., 27; Rec., 2. Pens., from 4 gns. W.E., fr. 45/-. Golf, bowls, tennis, bathing.

**ILFRACOMBE**, Devon. — Mount Hotel. Pens., from 3 gns. to 5 gns. Overlooking sea. All bedrooms with H. & C. Many with private bathrooms. Tennis.

**ROYAL CLARENCE** Hotel, High Street. Bed., 60; Rec., 3. Pens., 4 gns. W.E., 13/6 per day. Tennis, golf, fishing, boating, bathing.

**INVERARY**. — Argyll Arms Hotel. Bed., 20. Pens., 6 gns. W.E., 18/- per day. Lun., 3/6; Din., 6/-. Golf, fishing, tennis.

**KESWICK**, English Lakes. — The Keswick Hotel. Bed., 100; Rec., 5. Pens., 5 gns; 6 gns. season. W.E., fr. 15/- per day. Golf, tennis, boating, bowls, fishing.

**KIBWORTH**. — The Rose and Crown, Kibworth, near Leicester. A.A., R.A.C., and B.F.S.S. appointed.

**LANWRTYD WELLS**, Central Wales. — Dol-y-Coed Hotel. Bed., 35; Rec., 4. Pens., winter £4 7/6; sum., £4 15/-. W.E., 30/-. Golf, own course. Fishing, tennis.

**LOCH AWE**, Argyll. — Loch Awe Hotel. Phone: Dalmailly 6. Bed., 70; Rec., 4. Pens., 5 to 8 gns. acc. to season. Tennis, golf, fishing, boating.

**LONDON**. — Barkston House Hotel, 1, Barkston Gardens, S.W.5. Tel.: Fro. 2259. Pens., 2½ to 3 gns.

**GORE** Hotel, 189, Queen's Gate, S.W.7. Bed., 36; Rec., 2 and cocktail bar. Pens., from 3½ gns. Tennis.

**GUILDFORD HOUSE HOTEL**, 56/7, Guildford Street, W.C.1. — Terr. 5530. Rec., 1. Pens., £2 10/-. Bridge.

**HOTEL STRATHCONA**, 25 & 26, Lancaster Gate, W.2. Bed., 36; Rec., 5. Pens., 3½ gns. to 4½ gns. Table tennis.

**SHAFTESBURY** Hotel, Gt. St. Andrew Street, W.C.2. 2 mins. Leicester Sq. Tube. 250 bedrooms, h. and c. water. Room, bath, breakfast, 7/6; double, 13/6.

**THE PLAZA** Hotel, St. Martin's Street, Leicester Square, W.C.2. Bed., 100. Pens., from 4½ gns. W.E., £1 16/6. Lun., 3/6; Din., 4/6.

**LOSSIEMOUTH**, Morayshire. — Stotfield Hotel. Bed., 70; Rec., 3. Pens., 4 gns. to £6 16/6. W.E., 36/- to 45/-. Golf, fishing, bowling, tennis.

**LYNMOUTH**, N. Devon. — Bevan's Lyn Hotel. Bed., 48. Pens., from 4 to 6 gns. W.E., 25/-; Lun., 3/6 and 4/-; Din., 5/6. Golf, hunting, fishing, tennis, dancing.

**MORTEHOE**, N. Devon. — Chichester Arms Hotel. Bed., 6; Rec., 2. Pens., £2 10/-. W.E., £1 7/-. Golf, bathing.

**NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE**. — Central Exchange Hotel, Grey Street. Bed., 70; Rec., 9. Pens., £4. W.E., 36/-. Golf, fishing, bathing.

**OTTERBURN HALL** Hotel. — Bed., 44; Rec., 3. Pens., from 5 gns.; W.E., from 45/-. 5 hard courts. Golf on estate, fishing.

**NEWTON STEWART**, Wigtownshire. — Galloway Arms Hotel. Bed., 17; Rec., 5. Pens., £3 10/- to £4. Golf, fishing, bathing, bowling tennis.

**NITON**, Nr. Ventnor, I.O.W. — Niton Undercliff Hotel. Bed., 17; Rec., 4; Pens., from 5 gns. W.E. from £2 5/-. Golf, bathing, fishing, tennis.

**OCKHAM**, Surrey. — The Hautboy Hotel. Pens., 5 gns; W.E., £1 per day. Lun., 4/6; Tea, 1/9; Din., 6/-. Golf.

**PADSTOW**, Cornwall. — Commercial Hotel. Good fishing, good golf, rocks. Tel.: "Cookson." Padstow.

**PAIGNTON**, DEVON. — Radcliffe Hotel, Marine Drive. Bed., 70; Rec., 3; Pens., from 4 gns., from 5 to 7 gns. during season. W.E., 15/- to 18/- per day. Golf, tennis.

**PERTH** Scotland. — Station Hotel. Bed., 100; Rec., 4; Pens., from 4 gns.; W.E., from 24/-; Lun., 3/6; Tea, 1/6; Din., 6/-; Garden.

**PETERBOROUGH**. — Saracen's Head Hotel. Bed., 12; Rec., 2. Pens., 3½ gns. W.E., 30/-. Lun., 2/6; Din., 3/6. Tennis, fishing, boating, horse-riding.

**PHILLACK**, Hayle, Cornwall. — Rivière Hotel. Near sea; golf, H. & C. water in all rooms. Recommended A.A.

**PLYMOUTH**, Devon. — Central Hotel. Bed., 40; Rec., 3; Pens., 4 to 5 gns. Golf, tennis, bowls, sea and river fishing.

**PORTPATRICK**, WIGTOWNSHIRE. — Portpatrick Hotel. Bed., 65. Pens., from £5 weekly. Golf, boating, bathing, tennis.

**RIPON**, Yorks. — Unicorn Hotel, Market Place. Bed., 22. Pens., £4 7/6. W.E., 35/-. Golf, fishing, bowls, tennis, dancing.

**ROSS-ON-WYE**. — Chase Hotel. Bed., 28; Rec., 5. Pens., 3½ gns.; W.E., 37/6; Lunch, 2/6; Dinner, 4/-. Golf, fishing, tennis, bowls.

**SALISBURY**, Wilts. — Cathedral Hotel. Up-to-date. H. & C. and radiators in bedrooms. Electric lift. Phone: 399.

**SALOP**. — Talbot Hotel, Cleobury Mortimer. Bed., 7; Rec., 1. Pens., 84/-. Lun., 3/- and 3/6. Golf, Fordeminster.

**SCARBOROUGH**, Yorks. — Castle Hotel, Queen Street. Bed., 38. Pens., £3 12/6. W.E., 21/-. Golf, cricket, bowls, bathing.

**THE RAVEN HALL** Hotel, Ravenscar. Bed., 66; Rec., 5. Din., 6/-. Golf, bowls, swimming, billiards, tennis, dancing.

**SIDMOUTH**. — Belmont Hotel, Sea Front. Bed., 55; Rec., 3. Pens., 6½ to 8 gns. W.E., inclusive 3 days. Bathing, tennis, golf.

**SOUTH Uist**, Outer Hebrides. — Lochboisdale Hotel. Bed., 32; Rec., 7; Pens., 4 gns. Golf, 5 miles, free to hotel guests. Fishing, shooting, bathing, sailing.

**STOKE-ON-TRENT**. — Victoria Hotel, Victoria Square, Hanley. Bed., 16; Rec., 1. Pens., £3 6/-; Lun., 3/-; Din., 3/6; Sup., acc. to requirements. Dn., golf, tennis.

**STOCKBRIDGE**, HANTS. — Grosvenor Hotel. Phone: Stockbridge 9. Bed., 14; Rec., 1. Bed and breakfast, 8s. 6d.; double, 14/-. Golf, trout fishing.

**STRANRAER**, Wigtownshire. — Buck's Head Hotel, Hanover Street. Bed., 19; Pens., £3 10/-; W.E., 12/6 per day. Golf, tennis, fishing, swimming.

**TWICKESBURY**, Glos. — Royal Hop Pole Hotel. Bed., 46; Rec., 2. Pens., from 5 to 6½ gns. Winter, 3 gns. Golf, fishing, boating, bowls, cricket, hockey.

**TORQUAY**. — The Grand Hotel. Bed., 200; Rec., 3. Tennis courts; golf, Stover G.C. (free). Hunting, squash court, miniature putting course.

**PALM COURT** Hotel, Sea Front. Bed., 65; Rec., 6; Pens., from 5 to 7 gns.; winter, 4 gns. W.E., fr. 45/-. Tennis, golf, bowls, yachting, fishing.

**VIRGINIA** Water, Surrey. — Glenridge Hotel. Bed., 18; Rec., 3 and bar. Pens., £4 15/6. W.E., £1 17/6. Golf, Wentworth and Sunningdale, 5/-.

**WARWICK**. — Lord Leicester Hotel. Bed., 55; Rec., 5. Pens., from 4½ gns. W.E., Sat. to Mon., 33/-. Golf, Leamington, 14 miles. Tennis.

**WINDERMERE.**—Rigg's Windermere Hotel. Bed., 60. Pens., 5 to 6 gns. W.E. £2 8/6. Golf, 3/6 daily.

**YARMOUTH.**—Royal Hotel, Marine Parade. Bed., 85. Pens., from £3/12/6 W.E., 25/-; Lun., fr. 3/6; Din., fr. 4/6. Golf, bowls, tennis, dancing.

### HOTELS—Continued UNLICENSED

**BLACKPOOL.**—Empire Private Hotel. Facing Sea. Best part promenade. H. & C. all bedrooms. Lift to all floors.

**BOURNEMOUTH.**—Hotel Woodville, 14, Christchurch Road. 1st Class. Chef. Tennis, beach bungalow, garage, 45 cars.

**BRIGG,** Lincolnshire.—Lord Nelson Hotel. Pens., £3 10/-. Golf, 2 miles away, 2/6 per day, 7/6 per week. Fishing.

**BRIGHTON.**—Glencoe Private Hotel, 112, Marine Parade. Facing Sea. Telephone: 434711.

**BRISTOL.**—Cambridge House Hotel, Royal York Crescent, Clifton. Every comfort. Apply prop. L. V. Palmer.

**BUDE,** N. Cornwall.—The Balconies Private Hotel. Downs view.—Pens., from 2 gns. Golf, boating, fishing, bathing, tennis.

**BURNTISLAND,** Fifeshire.—Kingswood Hotel. Bed., 10; Rec., 2. Pens., from £3 10/-; W.E., 30/-. Golf, bathing, bowls.

**CHELMSFORD,** ESSEX.—Ye Olde Rodney, Little Baddow; Pens., 3 gns.; W.E. from 27/6. Lun., 2/6; Din., 3/6. Golf, fishing, yachting, tennis.

**CHELTENHAM SPA.**—Visit the Bays-hill Hotel, St. George's Road. Central for Cotswold Tours and all amenities. Moderate. Pinkerton. Tel.: 2578.

**PLYMOUTH,** Ltd. Pens., £3 13/6; W.E., £1 15/-. Lun., 3/-; Din., 5/-. Golf, polo.

**DAWLISH,** S. Devon.—Sea View Hotel, ex. Cuisine, every comfort. Write for Tariff. D. Bendall, prop.

**EASTBOURNE.**—Devonshire Court Hotel, Wilmington Square.—Bed., 15. Pens., from 3 gns.; W.E. from 10/6 per day. Golf, tennis. Winter garden.

**EDINBURGH.**—St. Mary's Hotel, 32, Palmerston Place.—Pens., from 4 gns. Golf, 2/6. Fishing and tennis in neighbourhood.

**FALMOUTH,** S. Cornwall.—Boscawen Private Hotel, Centre sea front, facing Falmouth Bay. Illustrated Handbook gratis from Res. Proprs. Phone: 141.

**MADEIRA PRIVATE Hotel,** Cliff Road. Bed., 58; Rec., 5. Pens., from 3 to 5 gns.; W.E., Sat. to Mon., 25/-. Tennis, golf.

**FELIXSTOWE,** SUFFOLK.—Bracandale Private Hotel, Sea Front. Bed., 40; Rec., 3. Pens., 3 to 5 gns.; W.E., 21/- to 30/-. Golf, tennis, bowls, putting.

**FERNDOWN,** Dorset.—The Links, Wimborne Road. Bed., 11; Rec., 2. Pens., 3 gns. to 4 gns.; W.E., 10/6 to 12/6 daily. Golf, 4/- per day (5/- Aug-Sept.).

**FOLKESTONE.**—Devonshire House Hotel. Est. 34 years. E. light. Central heat. No extras. Tel. 3341.

**FOLKESTONE.**—The ORANGE HOUSE Private Hotel, 8, Castle Hill Avenue. 3 mins. to Sea and Lens Cliff Concert Hall. Bed., 13; Rec., 2. Pens., 3-3½ gns. W.E., 10/6 daily. Excellent table.

**GOATHLAND,** Yorkshire.—Whitfield Private Hotel. Bed., 15. Pens., 3 to 4 gns. Lunch, 2/6 and 3/6; Dinner, 4/-. Golf, 4 miles. Hunting, fishing.

**HASLEMERE,** Surrey.—Hutwell Hatch Country House Hotel. H. & C. Gas fires in bedrooms. Phone 596.

**HASTINGS.**—Albany Hotel. Best position on the front. 120 rooms. Telephone: 761, 762.

**HEREFORD.**—The Residence Hotel, Broad Street. Bed., 25. Pens., 3 gns. W.E., from 25/-. Salmon fishing, boating, tennis. Large garage and car park.

**ILFRACOMBE.**—The Osborne Private Hotel, Wilder Road. Bed., 90; Pens., 2½ to 4½ gns. W.E., 12/- per day. Golf, bowls.

**ILFRACOMBE.**—Candar Hotel, Sea front. 80 bedrooms. Every modern comfort. Very moderate terms. Write for brochure.

**DILKUSA.**—GRAND Hotel, Sea front. Cent. 110 bed. all with H. & C. Five large lounges. Dancing. Billiards.

**IMPERIAL Hotel,** Promenade, facing sea. Well known. Lift. Ballroom. Pens., 3½ to 5 gns. Write for Tariff.

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**LEAMINGTON SPA.**—Alkerton Private Hotel, Binswood Avenue. Bed., 18; Rec., 2. Pens., 3 gns. Garden. Golf, half mile away. Tennis, bowls, croquet.

**SPA Hotel,** Bed., 33; Rec., 6. Pens., 3½ to 4½ gns. W.E., 12/6 to 13/6 per day. Golf, tennis, billiards.

**LEICESTER.**—Grantham, 57 & 60, Highfield Street. Pens., 3 gns.; W.E., 26/6. Lun., 2/6; Din., 3/-. Golf, tennis.

**LINCOLN.**—Grand Hotel, St. Mary Street. Bed., 33; Rec., 5. Pens., £3 10/-. Lun., 2/6; Din., 3/-. Golf.

**LANGOLLEN.**—Grapes Hotel. Stay here for Comfort. Fishing, golf. H. & C.

**LOCH-SHIEL, ARGYLL.**—Ardsealach Hotel, Acharracle. Bed., 8; Rec., 2. Pens., 4 gns.; W.E., £1 10/-; Lun., 3/6; Din., 4/-. G. Golf, fishing, bathing.

**LONDON.**—Alexandra Hotel (a quiet hotel), 21, 22 and 23, Bedford Place, London, W.C.1. Bed., 45; Rec., 3. Pens., 3 to 4 gns. Lun., 2/6; Din., 3/6.

**ARLINGTON HOUSE Hotel,** 1-3, Lexham Gardens, Cromwell Road, W.8. Rec., 4; Bed., 35. Pens., from 2½ to 5 gns.

**ARTILLERY MANSIONS Hotel,** Westminster, S.W.1. Phone: Vic. 0867 and 2003. Bed., 200; Rec., 2. S., 15s. D., 27s. Pens., 5 gns. to 8 gns.

**BONNINGTON HOTEL,** Southampton Row, W.C.1, near British Museum. 260 Rooms. Room, Bath and Table d'Hôte Breakfast, 8s. 6d.

**CORA Hotel,** Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1. Near Euston and King's Cross Stations. Accom. 230 Guests; Room, bath, and Table d'Hôte breakfast, 8/6.

**KENSINGTON PALACE MANSIONS Hotel,** De Vere Gardens, W.8. Bed., 270; Rec., 3. Pens., from 5 gns.; W.E., 21/- per day. Social Club. Squash rackets.

**LADBROKE Hotel,** Ladbrooke Gardens, Kensington Park Road, W.11. Bed., 60; Rec., 8. Pens., 2½ to 3½ gns. Garden. Tennis.

**LIDLINGTON Hotel,** 7, Lidlinton Place, N.W.1. T., Mus. 6126. Pens., 3 gns. Lun., 2/-; Tea, 1/-; Dinner, 2/6. Garden.

**MANOR HOTEL,** 32, Westbourne Terrace, Hyde Park, W.2. Bed., 75; Rec., 7. Pens., from 3½ gns. single; from 5 gns. double. Garden, Billiards.

**NORFOLK RESIDENTIAL Hotel,** 80/2, Kensington Gardens Square, W.2. Bays. 3801-2. J. Ralph, prop.

**OLD CEDARS Hotel,** Sydenham, S.E.26. Bed., 30; Rec., 2; Pens., from 3 gns.; W.E., from 30/-. G. Golf, within 10 minutes. Billiards. Ballroom. Tennis Courts.

**PALACE GATE Hotel,** Palace Gate, Kensington, W.8. Bed., 30; Rec., 3. Pens., from 3½ gns.; W.E., 30/-.

**RAYMOND'S PRIVATE Hotel,** 4, Pembroke Villas, Bayswater, W.11. Bed., 20; Rec., 3. Pens., from 2 gns. to £2/12/6.

**STANLEY HOUSE Hotel,** Stanley Crescent, Kensington Park Road, W.11. Phone: Park, 1168. Bed., 30; Rec., 3. Pens., fr. 2½ gns., 4 gns. double. Tennis.

**SOMERS PAYING GUEST HOUSE,** 55, Belsize Park Gardens, N.W.3. Tel.; Prim. 0242. Bed., 10; Rec., 1. Pens., fr. 3 gns. Tennis.

**STRATHALLAN Hotel,** 28, Bolton Gardens, S.W.5. Bed., 30. Pens., from 2½ gns., single, 5 gns. double. Billiards.

**WEST CENTRAL Hotel,** Southampton Row, W.C.1. T., Mus. 1400. Bed., 155; Rec., 5. Pens., 4 gns.; Lun., 2/6; Din., 3/6.

**WOODHALL Hotel,** College Road, Dalwich, S.E.21. Bed., 14; Rec., 2. Pens., 3 gns. Lun., 2/6; Din., 3/6. Golf, 2/6 per round. Garden, tennis, bridge, croquet.

**LYNTON, N. Devon.**—Waterloo House Private Hotel, Bed., 16. Rec., 3. Pens., 2 gns. to £2 10/-. Golf, 2 miles. Putting green, bowls, tennis. Centrally situated.

**MORTEHOE, N. Devon.**—Hillside Private Cottage Hotel. Bed., 25; Rec., 2. Pens., 2 to 3 gns.; W.E., 25/-; Lun., 3/6; Tea, 1/6; Din., 4/6. Golf, riding, tennis, drag hounds.

**NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.**—Regent Hotel, 55-59, Osborne Road, T., Jesmond, 906. Bed., 38; Rec., 3. Single from 7/6. Garden.

**THE OSBORNE Hotel,** Jesmond Road. Bed., 30; Rec., 3. Pens., £2 12/6; W.E., £1 7/6. Golf, bowls, tennis, cricket, billiards.

**OXFORD.**—Castle Hotel. Bed., 16; Rec., 3. Pens., 3½ gns.; W.E., £1 17/6. Lun., 2/-; Din., 3/-.

**RICHMOND, Surrey.**—Star & Garter Hotel.—England's historic, exquisite, romantic, social centre and Rendezvous.

**SCARBOROUGH, Yorks.**—Riviera Private Hotel, St. Nicholas Cliff. Bed., 37; Rec., 5. Pens., from £3 17/6. W.E., Sat. to Mon., from £1. Golf, tennis.

**SHAFTESBURY, Dorset.**—Coombe House Hotel.—Pens., 4 to 7 gns.; W.E., 42/- to 57/-. Golf, private 9-hole, 1/- per day. Tennis, putting, billiards, hunting.

**SHANKLIN, I.O.W.**—Cromdale Hotel, Keats Green. Bed., 14; Rec., 3. Pens., from 3½ gns. to 6 gns.; W.E., 12/- to 15/- per day. Golf, 2 miles. Tennis.

**SOUTHSEA, HANTS.**—Pendragon Hotel, Clarence Parade. Bed., 80; Rec., 2. Pens., 4 gns.; W.E., 12/6 per day.

**STROUD, Glos.**—Prospect House Hotel, Bulls Cross. Bed., 12; Rec., 1. Pens., 3 to 3½ gns. W.E., 12/6 per day. Garden. Golf, riding.

**TEIGNMOUTH, Devon.**—Beach Hotel, H.R.A. Promenade. Excellent position. Moderate inclusive terms. Write for tariff.

**TENBY, Pem.**—Cliffe Hotel. Bed., 25; Rec., 3. Pens., 3½ to 5 gns.; W.E., 30/- to 55/-. Tennis, golf, fishing, bathing.

**TORQUAY.**—Ashley Court Hotel, Abbey Road.—Bed., 30; Rec., 3. Pens., 3 gns. W.E., 30/-. Golf, 1 mile. Garden.

**GLEN DEVON Hotel,** St. Alban's Road, Babbacombe. Bed., 12; Rec., 1. Pens., 2½ to 3½ gns. Garden, tennis, golf.

**NETHWAY PRIVATE Hotel,** Falkland Road. Bed., 23; Rec., 2. Pens. from 3 gns. W.E. from 9/- per day. Golf, tennis, fishing.

**UIG, Isle of Skye.**—Uig Hotel. Bed., 13; Rec., 3. Lun., hot, 3/6; Din., 4/6. Golf, Hotel grounds, fishing, good boating.

**WALTON-ON-NAZE**—Hotel Porto Bello, Walton-on-Naze. English cuisine, comfort and attention.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**LLANDRINDOD WELLS.**—Kingsland Hotel for creature comforts and for miles and miles of preserved Salmon and Trout Waters. Mr. Walter Gallician, authority on fishing, resident for advice and tuition. En Pension from 3 gns. Mr. and Mrs. E. Turnbull, Resident Proprietors.

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# THE EMPIRE WEEK BY WEEK

## New South Wales' Premier for London

From an Australian Correspondent

WITH the arrival, towards the end of April, of Mr. Bertram Sydney Barnsdale Stevens, Premier of New South Wales, Australia will temporarily be represented in London by two Federal Ministers and two State Premiers.

The political influx for the Coronation next year will be much larger; Australians in public and private life will come here in numbers probably no less great than for King George's Silver Jubilee in 1935.

Mr. Stevens has never visited London. Nor had his predecessor in the Premiership, Mr. J. T. Lang, whose name became much better, if less favourably, known here in the two topsy-turvy years of Australian political and economic life which ended in Mr. Lang's dismissal by the Governor.

Mr. Stevens is forty-seven, and one of the few civil servants who have risen to high political office in Australia. His political career, though brief, has been spectacularly rapid, and in contrast with his essentially safe, solid and orthodox upbringing and outlook.

A rigid adherence to the Gospel of Toil and some sudden revolutions of the wheel in a State where queer things happen in politics have brought him to the top.

Only ten years ago, Mr. Stevens was Under-Secretary of the Treasury and Director of Finance. In reaching these positions at the age of thirty-seven, he had achieved much without advantages of wealth or family—the first money he earned was for blowing a pipe-organ for a student organist—but his friends, and probably he himself, had not dreamed that he would be pitched out of the Civil Service and into the political arena with such advantage.

Then Mr. Lang, after repeated friction with his adviser on financial policy, dismissed him. A year later found him in the Legislative Assembly with his lips unsealed bitterly to criticise the Premier's financial policy. By 1932, when Sir Thomas Bavin resigned the leadership of the Opposition, Mr. Lang found himself confronted by the Nationalist ranks led by Mr. Stevens.

The same year completed the turn of the wheel—Mr. Lang was dismissed, the Governor sent for Mr. Stevens and the erstwhile civil servant formed a provisional Government which received a great majority at the election.

By 1935, when Mr. Stevens had again been to the country and become the only Premier of the State since the War to retain office in two successive elections, he had reduced

the deficit to £1,750,000, the lowest for seven years.

Throughout his public life, it has been his knowledge of finance rather than his political skill which has helped him. He practised as an accountant in the interval between his Civil Service and Ministerial careers.

He had not, in his early days in the House, learned the art of garnishing his words or actions. Four years at the head of affairs have brought him a little more finesse and a political sense of touch, but he remains, above all, the precise man of finance.

He has throughout held the Treasury along with the Premiership. So happily can he lose himself in figures that he has been known to live at the Treasury offices and be at work—in pyjamas—at 6 o'clock in the morning.

Mr. Stevens' consultations here will include efforts to secure the renewal of British private investments in Australia, for money as well as men are needed to strengthen Australia by a larger population.

## Vancouver's Golden Jubilee

THE City of Vancouver officially celebrates its Golden Jubilee on July 1 (Dominion Day). Actually, the city was incorporated on April 6, 1886.

Two months later, however, it was completely wiped out by fire, so that the national birthday does, with fair historical accuracy, synchronise with the birth of the new city that arose on its ashes.

Sixty years ago this commercial metropolis of the Province of British Columbia, the third largest city in the Dominion of Canada, had no existence, even in name.

Its site is a peninsula, "a very narrow border of low land" as Captain Vancouver described it, when he nosed his way into Burrard Inlet in 1792.

Thither, seventy years later, lured by the discovery of gold in the Cariboo, up the Fraser River, came three men, John Morton, Sam Brighthouse, and William Hailstone, who had crossed the Atlantic in the cable ship the "Great Eastern."

Morton, on his way to the diggings, encamped on the shore of Burrard Inlet with an Indian, and the sheer beauty of the location made him decide to settle there.

His partners fell in with the plan, they staked a claim, and within a short space of time a small log cabin and barn—the first buildings to be erected on the peninsula—made their appearance in a half-acre clearing.

The gold rush up the Fraser made it possible for the three men to

earn money in building roads and digging ditches for the Government, so that three years later they were able to contract to buy 550 acres to the west of their original location for £114 11s. 8d.

Their intention was to establish a "milk ranch," although Morton, a potter by trade, had some idea of setting up a pottery and brick-making plant.

Those who heard of their venture laughed heartily at the "three greenhorn Englishmen" who had agreed to pay the Government 4s. an acre for land covered with trees, instead of taking up grassland nearby.

But the greenhorns were not only Englishmen, they were Yorkshiremen, and time amply justified the wisdom of their choice.

Those same 550 acres constitute to-day the very heart of the City of Vancouver, and on the site of their original half-acre clearing now towers the Marine Building 350 feet above the street level.

The coming of the railway, which linked up the Province with the rest of Canada, was the prime factor in the making of Vancouver.

On May 23, 1887, the first passenger train from the east pulled into the city, and the vitalising effect of this coming of the steel was immediate.

Docks for ocean-going steamers sprang into existence, thirty-six miles of streets were graded, and an electric lighting system and a telephone service introduced.

In 1886, when it received incorporation as a city, Vancouver had a population of 2,000. By 1909 the population had passed the 100,000 mark.

The opening of the Panama Canal in 1915 was almost as epoch-making an event in the history of the city as the coming of the railway had been. The cutting of the Isthmus of Panama reduced the all-sea route from Liverpool to Vancouver by nearly 6,000 miles.

What this has meant to the development of the city as a port may be seen in the movement of Canadian wheat. The first shipment of grain for export from Vancouver to the United Kingdom, was 45,000 bushels, in 1900. In 1917, when the Panama Canal was in full running order, a trial shipment was made of 90,209 bushels. The first commercial cargoes were taken in January, 1921, when the shipments totalled 572,747 bushels.

In 1932 the wheat shipment of 95,241,663 bushels, making a total grain shipment of 105,006,925 bushels, won for the port the distinction of ranking as the leading winter grain shipping port of the world.

To-day, no fewer than fifty-five deep sea steamship lines make Vancouver their regular port of call, and

nearly 12,000,000 tons of shipping clear from it annually.

Its harbour of 48 square miles—one of the largest natural harbours in the world—has a total shore line of 98 miles.

Vancouver has to-day a population of 300,000 souls. Most of them are of British stock.

## What of Kenya's Defences!

By Cleland Scott

Nanyuki, Kenya.

**G**REAT Britain has always run her Colonial Empire on the lines of a school, and treated the inhabitants as precocious children.

Maybe a sound method, but irritating to the Colonists, and dependent for success on the "Head."

Some years ago the Kenya Defence Force was formed and the Governor Sir Joseph Bryne became Commander-in-Chief.

From the start he appears to have disliked and distrusted it.

The force has been systematically starved of money, £900 or the equivalent of the salary of one District Commissioner, being allocated for training 2,500 Class 1 men.

During the height of the financial stringency the Defence Committee agreed to the amalgamation of certain offices with those of the K.A.R. on the understanding that the £2,000 thus saved would be given to the Defence Force for training purposes.

Needless to say it never received a penny.

The Commandant, General Lewin, D.S.O., a soldier with a distinguished War record, did his best, but after actions concerning his force were repeatedly taken behind his back he resigned.

Shortly after the publication of his resignation came that of a pronouncement from Mr. Thomas, who is hardly renowned for tact!

In this he referred to the numerous secret despatches from His Excellency, in consequence of which he had decided that the K.D.F. be disbanded and a Territorial Volunteer Regiment substituted.

The publication of this decision in the local Press, coming on top of Great Britain's determination to increase her defences, seems particularly ironical.

In the past sporadic outbreaks have occurred in different parts of the Empire and will inevitably do so again. Meanwhile the country is to be exposed and risked by the disbandment of a trained force.

In the event of any large war the male inhabitants would flock to the Colours but they would be untrained and so valuable time would be wasted, and in the case of trouble in or near Kenya the damage would be done before they were efficient.

As a result of the publication of H.E.'s high-handed and secret actions two prominent unofficial members of the Executive Council have resigned as for the Nth time

they were not consulted at all on matters concerning the welfare of Kenya.

Resolutions protesting against this jeopardising of the country's safety and also against further similar actions have been passed throughout the land.

## Too Many Clerks

By G. Delap Stevenson

**W**EST AFRICA has recently been complaining of having too many native clerks.

In the Gold Coast, in particular, the Government has been alarmed at the number of boys coming out of the schools who will have no chance of getting the kind of jobs for which they are qualified.

It is hoped that the problem may be dealt with by some kind of quota on the numbers starting higher education. More widespread elementary education and less higher education is the policy.

This problem of too much education is, of course, by no means confined to West Africa. It exists in Europe, and in India unemployment among those who have received some form of higher education is known to be one of the most potent causes of discontent and terrorism.

These victims of higher education, though they may cause trouble, certainly also deserve sympathy, and this is particularly so in regard to native races.

The white man has brought his education, and in all sincerity has told the natives that schools are estimable and the road to a better life, both mentally and materially.

The native sees that the ruling white man is himself educated, he sees also the good jobs held by some educated natives, so the boy goes to school hoping great things.

There is the work and excitement of examinations and then, just when it should all come to fruition, he finds himself unwanted and his trouble and work gone for nothing!

The over-production of clerks is actually a new thing in West Africa.

When Lord Lugard wrote his "Dual Mandate" not long after the war there was a shortage. There were still not enough native clerks for the Government service and commerce, nor native teachers for the schools.

Lord Lugard, however, fully appreciated the other danger, which exists even when there is no fear of education leading to unemployment.

He deplored the emergence of a special class of "educated natives," cut off from the life of their own people, and full of discontents.

Certainly this now seems to be pretty generally recognised, and the modern tendency is to try to keep native education more in accord with native life.

Simpler and more widespread education, such as the Gold Coast Government plans, and the importance of training in agriculture and

craftsmanship are now accepted ideas.

In the African territories education was in the first place begun by missionaries, and a great deal of it is still in their hands. The Governments, however, now subsidise such mission schools as they approve of, and also run schools of their own, often in conjunction with the native administrations.

The tendency in recent years has been for the Governments to take more control and interest themselves more closely in education.

Certainly the education departments in the African colonies are now important parts of the Government service.

In Nigeria in 1933-34 the Government spent £238,000 on education and the native administrations another £50,000. This represents over 200,000 children, apart from those in the Arabic Koran schools.

## Bengal and the Water Hyacinth

**A** BEAUTIFUL, scentless flower has been condemned to extinction by the Bengal Legislative Council. It is the water hyacinth, a pest which has invaded arable lands and held them for years in its grip.

The Water Hyacinth Bill, recently passed, ensures concerted action. People in affected districts will, under Government supervision, group together and give so many working hours of their own time to banishing the plant from the land.

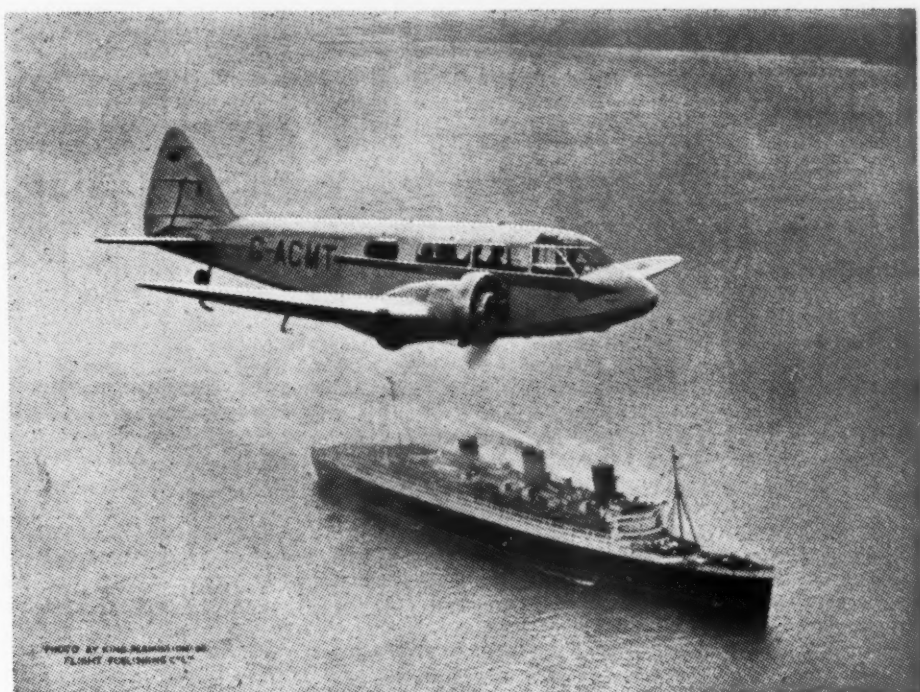
Thus, as Nawab Sir Mohiuddin Farouqi said, it may confidently be hoped that a very large area of cultivatable land will be set free, with salutary effect on the economic conditions of the agriculturists.

Action has been under consideration since the Water Hyacinth Committee reported in 1922 that scientific investigation should be made, but this was construed as an admission that the time was not then ripe for legislation.

"The position has now changed," it was pointed out recently. "In 1929 and 1930 it was proved in Orissa, by the work of Mr. Peck, District Magistrate of Cuttack, that under certain conditions water hyacinth could be practically eliminated by concerted popular efforts under the direction of a District Officer."

"In 1934 and during the present year it has been proved by the work done in the Brahmanbaria subdivision of Tippera, in three subdivisions of Faridpur, in parts of Rajshahi and, later, in other subdivisions of Tippera, that similar methods are effective in the vastly more difficult conditions which prevail in the river districts of Bengal."

Bengal has, in the past been a deficit province in respect of the production of paddy. This deficit, it is believed, will be remedied by the lands released from the grip of the beautiful parasite.



## Modern Design....

### MODERN TRAVEL

A comparison of the lines of the Airspeed "Envoy" Series II with those of the Q.S.T.S. "Queen Mary" reveal some interesting features.

For instance, there is not a cleaner aircraft than the "Envoy." That is the reason it has such economical speed. Similarly the designers of the "Queen Mary" have used the same aerodynamic principals in order to give to her the speed necessary to make her "Queen of the Atlantic." The comparison does not end here: in both craft passenger comfort has been reckoned as of primary importance, reliability is the keynote of their operation, safety in all circumstances the aim of their builders. The modern traveller demands luxury with speed and, in the two latest forms of travel—the Q.S.T.S. "Queen Mary" and the "Envoy" Series II—both are assured.

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## ENVOY SERIES II

**AIRSPPEED (1934) LTD., THE AIRPORT, PORTSMOUTH, ENGLAND**



## The Budget Surplus

By Our City Editor

THE national financial year has closed with a Budget surplus of nearly £8,000,000 and a plethora of bouquets for the Chancellor. The latter's estimates, however, were either cunning in the extreme or outrageously incorrect for he estimated a surplus of £500,000 over total expenditure of £733,970,000. Actually expenditure amounted to £749,979,000, or £16,000,000 in excess of the estimate and the Chancellor was saved by the fact that the increase in revenue of £38,479,000 was double the increase he budgeted for. If we examine how this expansion in revenue was achieved, smug satisfaction at the year's financial outcome is dispelled for £15,600,000 of the increase is accounted for by income tax and death duties and a further £13,600,000 by customs and excise. The expansion in customs revenue may at first sight be heartening but in effect it means that British imports of tariffed goods are on the increase, probably at the expense of British manufactures.

As regards income tax and death duties, the position calls for special consideration. The under-estimate for income-tax revenue means that those unfortunate people who are taxed to the hilt by it are being penalised to a greater extent even than is justified by the Chancellor's estimates. Mr. Chamberlain should either admit that he needs this sum from income-tax or repay the realised surplus from this tax by a reduction in the standard rate. Death duties were actually estimated to yield £1,356,000 less than in the previous year; they give an increase of £6,564,000 and this expansion in "revenue" from death duties only serves to emphasise the iniquity of such a levy. If revenue from death duties were earmarked for debt redemption, there could be little objection to their existence but that they should constitute a revenue "windfall" each year to help out miscalculating Chancellors of the Exchequer is a blot on our national financial reputation.

### Russia's Gold

The enormous increase in Russian gold production is shown in the figures compiled by the Union Corporation, whose latest report reveals a net profit of £604,920 for 1935 against £565,816 for the previous year, the dividend being again 64 per cent. absorbing £560,000. The Corporation makes an exhaustive analysis of the world's gold position and shows that in the past year Russia's production increased from 4,263,000 fine ozs. to 5,650,000 ozs. and that it is claimed that the country will be producing ten or eleven million ounces by the end of this year. The Union of South Africa last year produced 10,774,000 fine ozs. the lowering of the grade on the rise in the price of gold actually having caused a fall in production, though it is expected that this tendency will have been overcome by 1937. As a result largely of the increase in Russian gold production, the Empire's proportion of the world's output declined last year from 58.7 per cent. to 55.3 per cent. In 1929 the Empire percentage amounted to 72. Russia's cool claim that her production in a year's time will be practically at the same rate as that of South Africa must be maddening to the proprietors of Lena Goldfields and other expropriated properties financed with British capital.

### Canadian Credit

The credit of the Dominion of Canada has fallen under a cloud owing to the action of some of the cities and provinces. The cancellation by the Ontario Government of the power contracts in which British capital is interested came as a serious blow to the financial supporters of the Dominion and now Alberta, of "Social Credit" fame, has failed to meet a bond maturity and the City of Montreal seeks to resort to forced conversion of its debt. The Dominion has without doubt gone through the hardest of financial ordeals during the depression and that it should have emerged with so few scars is a matter for congratulation. But for the future of Canadian credit to be made secure, it is necessary for the introduction of some such measures as were taken in Australia to curb provincial financial irresponsibility. Until the Dominion is able to assume responsibility for the debts of the provinces, and this must entail the strictest control of provincial finances, she will not be entitled to participate to the full in the benefits of Empire financial operations, as Australia has done. At the moment it appears that matters in Canada are coming to a head and the sooner the situation is taken drastically in hand, the better.

### Ford Motor Dividend

The Ford Motor Company is again paying a dividend of 5 per cent. for the year, causing considerable disappointment in the market. The £1 stock units at 33s. 6d. yield only £2 7s. 9d. per cent. on this basis and appear much over-valued in comparison, say, with Austins, which, despite their recent rise to 53s. 6d., still return £4 13s. 6d. per cent. Morris Motors had a huge jump in net profits last year to £1,167,735, and a dividend of 15 per cent. tax-free is to be paid on the privately-held ordinary capital. There are rumours of an eventual marketing of these shares and one can only imagine what sort of a rush there would be to acquire a holding.

### "Johnnies" Group Results

The reports for 1935 of the mines associated with the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company are typical of the tendency of the past year in the Rand gold mining industry, for taxation is higher, a larger tonnage was milled, with a lowering of the grade, and a substantial reduction in working costs. Thus Government Areas milled 36,000 tons more than in the previous year and profits at £3,873,246 were £258,322 lower. Dividends of 120 per cent., against 125 per cent., absorb £1,680,000. Van Ryn Deep increased the capacity of the reduction plant to 100,000 tons per month, this extension operating fully in May. No less than 180,000 tons more were crushed than in the previous year, and working costs were reduced by 6d. to 18.795s. per ton. Recovery, however, was lowered so substantially that profits were reduced from £615,609 to £584,215, dividends of 30 per cent. being paid, against 32½ per cent. for the previous year.

Randfontein crushing was higher by 536,000 tons and with inclusive working costs down by 2.383s. per ton milled, profit rose by £229,190 to £1,581,498, dividends being 20 per cent., against 13½ per cent. Taxation totalled £452,429, against £219,514 for 1934. New State Areas and Langlaagte each milled a larger tonnage with a lower yield and some reduction in profits, despite further declines in costs. Witwatersrand Gold Mining, which the market expects to benefit materially from the change in taxation this year, paid £75,781 in tax last year, against £70,021 for 1934. Working costs were slightly lower and profits rose by £11,667, dividends being 20 per cent., against 15 per cent.

## NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE

INSURANCE Co., Ltd.

Total Assets £50,890,000

Total Income exceeds £10,476,000

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**COMPANY MEETING****VICKERS, LIMITED**

The Annual General Meeting of Vickers, Limited, was held on the 3rd inst., in London.

Gen. the Hon. Sir HERBERT A. LAWRENCE, G.C.B. (the chairman), who presided, in the course of his speech said: The accounts show that the net profits for the past year were £928,105, an increase of £314,844 compared with those of 1934. After the transfer of £242,009 to reserve your directors recommend the payment of a dividend of 8 per cent. on the Ordinary share capital and an increase in the carry-forward of £13,886.

Considerable progress, both as regards orders booked and work completed, was made during the year in all the shipyards and works of the company and its subsidiaries and associated companies. We are still pursuing our policy of bringing all the production plant of the various works and companies up to a condition of full efficiency. This has meant considerable capital expenditure, but the results as regards quality, speed and cost of production have already shown that the confidence we have placed in the management in this respect has been fully justified. One important result of this modernisation is that we are confident that the companies can undertake such work as is entrusted to them under the Government defence programme in a well-ordered manner.

The prosperity of this company is largely dependent upon its ability to secure armament work here and abroad, but it has to be borne in mind that at our Vickers works, in Sheffield, belonging to the English Steel Corporation, at least 70 per cent. of the turnover is on commercial account, while at Birmingham and Trafford Park 100 per cent. is commercial.

As showing the employing capacity of the group it is worthy to note that the total number employed at the end of 1935 was 46,650. The corresponding figure at the beginning of the year was 35,955.

The report and accounts were adopted and the dividends as recommended were approved.

**COMPANY MEETING****APOLLINARIS & PRESTA, LIMITED**

The thirty-ninth Annual General Meeting of Apollinaris & Presta, Limited, was held on Tuesday at the Holborn Restaurant, Lord Lurgan presiding.

In presenting the Directors' Report and Accounts for the year ending December 31st, 1935, Lord Lurgan referred to the many and very great difficulties with which the Company had to contend, as a continuation of the troubles which they had been going through during the last few years. These difficulties were occasioned by the high German Exchange which had increased the cost of Apollinaris by some 40 per cent., and by the German Transfer Moratorium preventing the Company from withdrawing monies from that country. The consequences of this situation were serious, inasmuch as the business had to meet very heavy prior charges for the payment of Interest on the Debentures and on Debenture Deferred Interest Certificates amounting to no less than £51,000 per annum. They obviously could not go on paying out this sum when they were not earning the money. A Scheme of Arrangement had accordingly been entered into with the Debenture Holders and Debenture Deferred Interest Certificate Holders, which was now before the Court for sanction, and the acceptance of this Scheme showed conclusively that the Holders of the prior securities were convinced of the necessity of safeguarding the financial stability of the Company.

In seconding the adoption of the Report and the Accounts, the Managing Director, Mr. Francis J. Schilling, referred to the business in general. The demand for Apollinaris continued to be very good both at home and abroad.

Although the increase in profits was moderate, they hoped that, as further progress was made with Presta, it would help them to tide over the present period of adversity.

The Report and the Accounts were adopted unanimously.

**MOTORING****Where the Motorists' Associations Fail****BY SEFTON CUMMINGS**

IN England there are at least two associations of motorists with exceedingly large membership, each of which gives service to its members. Both have, moreover, exercised a deal of common sense to avoid duplication of work and competition which could do neither party any good.

The amount of work each of these organisations has done to improve motoring conditions is considerable, and at first sight it is apt to be thought that they are each to be heartily congratulated. On probing the matter further, however, it will be found that there is another side to the question.

Thus, one organisation, starting very many years ago, labelled towns and villages and also gave the distances to the principal important towns in the vicinity and often to London as well. The other has caused to be erected a most useful series of signposts, put up at the right height for clear reading and marked in such a manner that the motorist can see at a glance which road he should take.

Both have installed telephone boxes alongside important main roads in order that motorists who encounter trouble may telephone for assistance, while both provide patrols on bicycles or motor bicycles, who are ready to render any reasonable service to members.

**The Motorist Pays**

Both organisations post men to direct the traffic at dangerous cross-roads, and there is no doubt that these men have averted many accidents.

But some of these activities, admirable as they are in their way, simply mean that the motorist is not getting proper value for what he pays in taxation. Why should the Government not erect proper signposts? Why should motorists have to pay for traffic control at cross-roads, a job which should be undertaken by the police?

Surely the duty of such organisations is to protect the rights of their members, not to say in effect, "We cannot get the Government to do anything, so we will do it ourselves at our own expense."

It is in protecting the rights of motorists that these organisations have failed. It is true that they will provide legal aid if a member gets into trouble; but this is not enough. What they are really there for is to oppose arbitrary legislation which creates a multitude of offences. I am quite sure that if these bodies had really organised opposition to the tyrannical restrictions imposed by the Road Traffic Act they would be called upon to provide much less legal aid than they have to provide at present. It must also be remembered that in comparatively few cases is legal aid sought.

This is the main point; but there are others.

## CINEMA

## Codfish

BY MARK FORREST

SOME directors are never happy with their material unless something is happening all the time; others can take an incident and, by their treatment of it, so fashion it that the audience will be more satisfied with the result than they would be with the spectacle of a major disaster. There is, however, and must be a limit to the paucity of the plot and, it seems to me, that this has been reached in *Merlusse*, the new picture at the Curzon.

Here is a charming idea which would make a nice Christmas story; it would also make an excellent short film but, well treated as it is, there is not enough of it to make a full length entertainment.

*Merlusse* is a Provençal word meaning "cod-fish," and this curious description is applied by the boys at a Marseilles Lycée to one of the professors. English boys have used epithets no less descriptive to masters over here on the very same, old, and therefore to be respected, grounds that they stank. This professor according to the united opinion of the school smells, and that is not the end of it; for he has a wall-eye and a raucous voice, the combination of which frightens the younger pupils so that they regard him as some sort of ogre. But, as you will have guessed, *Merlusse* hides under his rough exterior a heart of gold, though its carat is not discovered by the pupils until he has to take duty on Christmas Eve.

*The Slender Thread*

Left behind at the school because their parents are dead, abroad or forgetful, are some forty boys who give *Merlusse* a very bad time of it only to wake up on Christmas day to find that, though others may neglect them, he has broken the rules of the school and made them all a present of something. Whereupon they gather their own treasures together, such as caramels, knives, cigarette holders and even love-letters to make him an adequate return.

That is the story which has the merit of being true; it all happened at this Marseilles Lycée and the director, Mr. Pagnol, was a master there at the time. In spite of all this, however, and its skilful treatment, the thread is too slender. The cast with the notable exception of Mr. Poupon, as *Merlusse*, is an amateur one and is none the worse for that.

Over Easter this management will revive the successes of the Marx Brothers; as none of their films has a coherent plot, the last sentence of my first paragraph is probably nonsense.

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MARTA EGGERTH in

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Music by FRANZ LEHAR

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## BROADCASTING

## More Money for the Muddlers

BY ALAN HOWLAND

IF one may judge from the opinions expressed in the official organ of the B.B.C., the Broadcasting Boys are indulging in a quiet gloat over the recommendations of the Broadcasting Commission. The Commission, we learn, is so satisfied with broadcasting as it is, that practically no changes are to be made in the constitution of the B.B.C., except that a greater percentage of the licence-money is to be available at headquarters. It is fairly safe to say that whenever the B.B.C. allows itself a gloat the listener is the one to suffer in the long run, and I therefore view this self-congratulation with the utmost alarm.

It is this question of the increased income which worries me most of all, not because I do not think that more money should be spent on programmes, but because I have absolutely no faith in the wisdom of the people who will have the spending of it.

*White Elephants*

For consider what has happened during the last few years. Broadcasting House was erected at colossal expense and was found after a few short weeks to be hopelessly inadequate. The Concert Hall will not accommodate the Symphony Orchestra, the Variety Theatre was found unsuitable for Variety performances, and the administrative and programme staff overflowed into the adjacent buildings. St. George's Hall had to be acquired and new studios built at Maida Vale. Heaven knows how many thousands of pounds were poured down the drain for want of a little intelligence and foresight on the part of the Big Broadcasting Noises.

Meanwhile salaried and incompetent officials received their yearly increment and artists and authors were scandalously underpaid. Hundreds of pounds were spent on programmes which could only possibly appeal to an infinitesimal portion of the listening public, popular artists were put into quarantine for trivial mistakes or errors of judgment or for making a grimace at someone whose dignity was five times the size of his importance, and advertising of a most pernicious, indecently veiled, type has been allowed to raise its ugly head in the programmes.

And these same people who have committed these atrocities are to have even more money to squander for the next ten years! If there were a single person on the staff of the B.B.C. who had the slightest business acumen, if there were one lone individual who had had more than five minutes' executive experience in the entertainment industry before he went on the broadcasting dole I should not feel so horrified. As it is, however, words cannot express my apprehension.